

Tappmeyer leads Bearcats into MIAA tournament

SEE SECTION C FOR A COMPLETE MIAA TOURNAMENT PREVIEW

Futsal freaks: An international sport makes its way to Maryville

SEE SPORTS FOR COMPLETE COVERAGE

Movin' on up

New Nodaway Humane Society provides state-of-the-art animal accommodations
SEE FEATURES, 6A



Former teacher faces felony charges

Vicki Auxier awaits arraignment for alleged statutory rape of 16-year-old male student

By ABBY SIMONS
EDITOR IN CHIEF

Nearly two months after resigning amid allegations of inappropriate relations with a student, a former Maryville High School English teacher awaits arraignment for statutory rape charges.

Special Appointed Prosecutor Dwight Scroggins filed a felony complaint Monday against Vicki Auxier, 47, Maryville, charging statutory rape in the second degree, a class C felony. After turning herself in to local law enforcement in the presence of an attorney Monday, Auxier was released after posting \$10,000 bond. She now awaits a March 9 court date before Division II Circuit Court Judge Glen Dietrich.

The charges follow a month-long investigation by Maryville Public Safety into whether Auxier had inappropriate relations with a male student, then 16.

According to a probable cause statement filed Feb. 27 by Public Safety Sgt. Randy Strong, the student, now 17, admitted that Auxier had sexual intercourse with him during summer 2003.

Further investigation also concluded that Auxier had admitted of the relationship to Maryville High School officials.

She officially resigned from the school district Jan. 16. The Maryville R-II Board of Education approved a Separation Agreement and Release with Auxier Feb. 18. Superintendent Jay Reese will now move forward with the revocation of her teaching license.

Under Missouri law, allegations against Auxier fall under statutory rape in the second degree, in which adults at least 21 years of age engage in sexual intercourse with a minor under age 17. The act is punishable by up to seven years in prison.

Court records indicate that the acts occurred in Nodaway County and continued in other counties.

Public Safety Director Keith Wood said last week that the acts took place "a number of months ago," and that information indicated that the acts did not occur on school grounds. Because she has retained legal counsel, Auxier has yet to be interviewed by Public Safety.

Wood said that although the student is no longer a minor under Missouri State law, his status as such when the alleged acts occurred deems him an alleged victim of statutory rape, regardless of whether the sex was consensual.

(Please see 'Auxier' page A5)



VICKI AUXIER
PHOTO: 2002 - 03
MARYVILLIAN YEARBOOK

Budget cuts leave local school district still standing

'Hold Harmless' classification leaves Maryville R-II School District less reliant on state funding, enduring fewer cuts

By AARON BAILEY
COMMUNITY NEWS EDITOR

With the current funding problems facing school districts across the state, the Maryville R-II District has had to make its share of cuts.

Last year, the district saw its funding decrease by \$150,000. But since the district is classified as a "Hold Harmless" school district, it's not as reliant on state aid as some of the other districts in the area.

The "Hold Harmless" classification was given under the state's current funding formula in which the district has been assessed as a rich district. According to Superintendent Jay Reese, 72 percent of the funding comes from local revenue and about 20 percent from the state, which is almost exactly opposite from most of the other districts in the area. Even so, Maryville R-II schools have had to make reductions in spending.

"We've made some major cuts over the last five years," Eugene Field Princi-

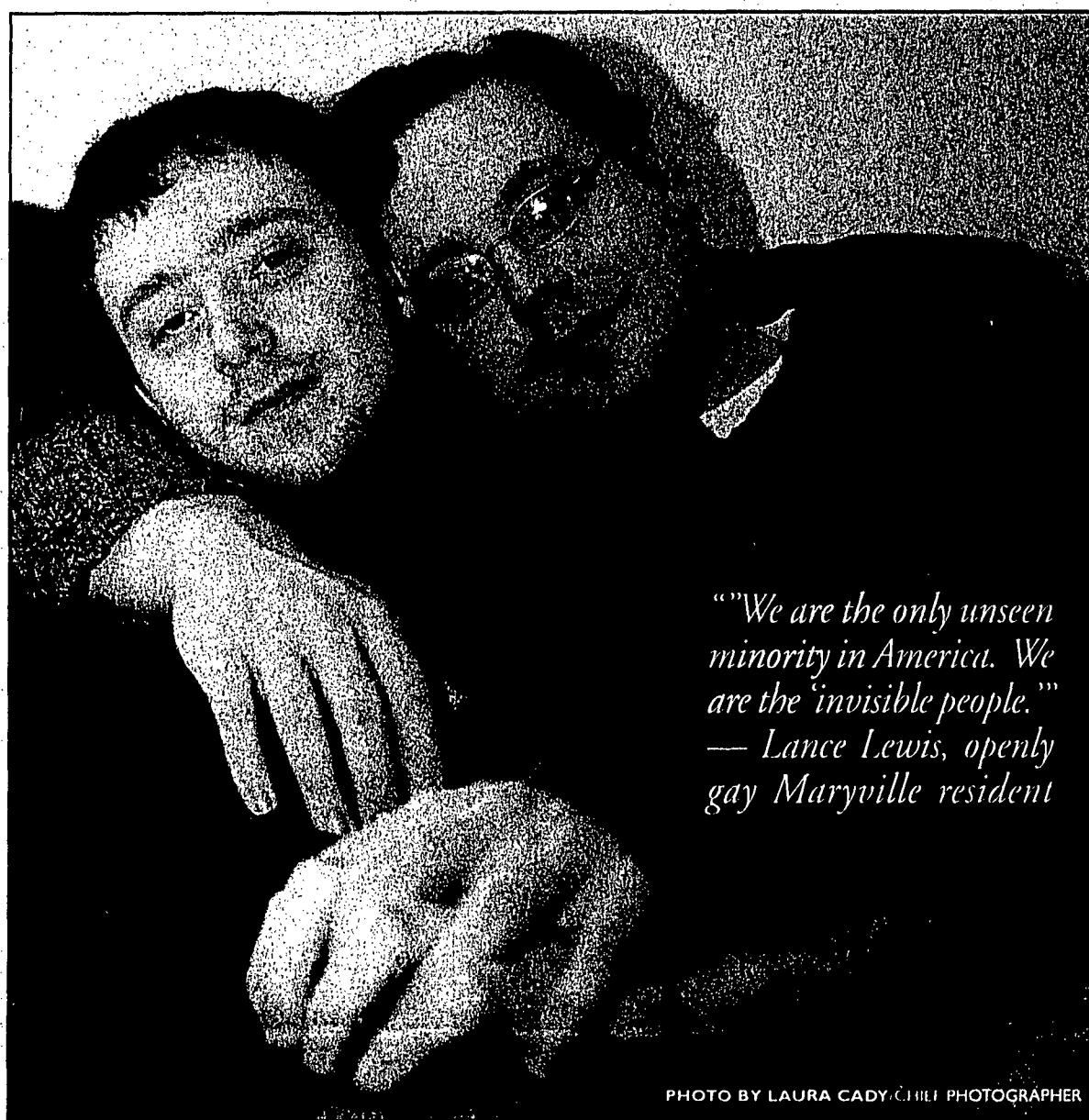
pal David Weichinger said. "We probably got hit a little sooner than some of the other school districts did and right now we're not getting hit as hard as some of the neighboring districts are."

Over the last five years Eugene Field has lost five staff members, some of which were teachers. They now share a counselor with Maryville Middle School.

Reese said the district has made some reductions in personnel, materials and equipment this year. And even though his district hasn't been affected as much as others, he still sees the funding shortcomings as nearing a crisis level.

"One hundred and thirteen out of 540 school districts have some sort of tax issue this coming April and to me, that sends quite a message across this state," he said. "With the increase in mandates and requirements that we have, the funding hasn't followed for those both at a federal and state level. The bottom line is we need more money."

(Please see 'Budget Cuts' page A5)



Eric Bauer and Lance Lewis have been dating for two months. While they are not quite thinking of marriage, they do support the idea of allowing gay couples to get married. President Bush is calling for a constitutional amendment that would ban same-sex marriages.

"We are the only unseen minority in America. We are the 'invisible people.'"
— Lance Lewis, openly gay Maryville resident

PHOTO BY LAURA CADY, CHIEF PHOTOGRAPHER

Seeking legal unity

Northwest gay couples stand up for right to marry; others beg to differ

By STEPHANIE STANGL
CHIEF REPORTER

He could be a happily married man.

That is, if same-sex marriages were legal. Phillip Holthus, a gay Northwest student, says he would like to marry his partner of a year-and-a-half if he is ever granted that right.

"If same-sex marriage was legalized, I would be marching up to Maryville City Hall to get a marriage license today," Holthus said.

It doesn't look like Holthus will be getting his wish anytime soon.

President Bush is calling for a constitutional amendment to ban same-sex marriage because several cities recently began

granting marriage licenses to homosexuals. Bush, who calls the issue of gay marriage "troubling," said he wants to ensure that marriage is defined as the union of a man and a woman.

Bush said he would leave it up to the states to decide whether they want to pass amendments allowing for civil unions, a marriage contract between a gay couple recognized by a state government while a church refuses to.

Homosexuals argue that they deserve the right to marry so they are entitled to the same benefits, rights and privileges of heterosexual couples such as health insurance, social security and inheritance.

An amendment preventing such rights, Holthus said, would serve no real purpose.

"It will be the first Constitutional amendment that was written specifically to discriminate," he said.

Some members of the community support Bush's efforts.

Richard Haggert, pastor at the First Baptist Church in Maryville, claimed he cannot advocate same-sex marriages

(Please see 'Northwest' page A5)

CMSU professor, dean to take over College of Arts and Sciences

Charles McAdams selected by Northwest President Dean Hubbard to fill position, looks forward to maintaining tradition and building on successes

By JANEA PHILIP
UNIVERSITY NEWS EDITOR

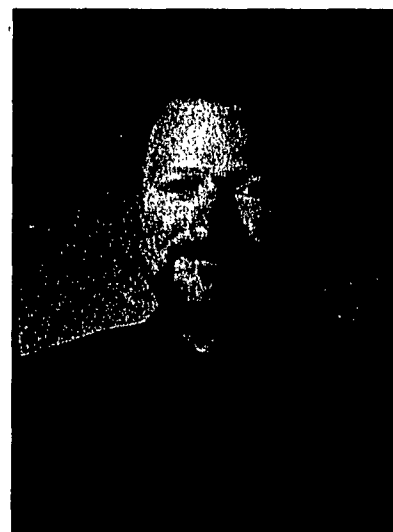
After several years without a permanent dean, the College of Arts and Sciences received the final decision.

As a result of recommendation from the Northwest search committee, Provost Taylor Barnes and President Dean Hubbard decided that Charles

McAdams was the best candidate for the dean of the College of Arts and Sciences. McAdams is currently acting dean of the College of Arts and Sciences at Central Missouri State University.

Barnes said that McAdams was the best candidate based on his knowledge of state and national higher education.

(Please see 'Charles' page A5)



Charles McAdams of Central Missouri State University will begin his position as dean of the College of Arts and Sciences June 1.

Merger's fate rests with legislators

Bill enters General Assembly; legislators will now debate Senate Bill No. 1295

By PETE GUTSCHENRITTER
ASSIGNMENT EDITOR

When the news broke last April that Northwest would explore the possibility of merging with the University of Missouri system, alumna and special assistant to the president Angel Lewis was in law school at Creighton University.

Nearly 11 months later Senate Bill No. 1295 has made the sound of "University of Missouri-Northwest" closer to becoming a reality.

Students have voiced their concerns to Northwest administrators since the first town hall meeting took place April 3, 2003.

Lewis had those same concerns. "The first time I heard (about the possible merger) was from my professor at Creighton," Lewis said. "I had mixed feelings about it and people were like, 'What the heck are they doing?' For the students that feel that way, I can understand."

As University-sponsored town hall meetings gave students the opportunity to ask questions, it is now in the hands of state legislators, as State Sen. David Klindt introduced the merger bill Feb. 25.

"I think (the merger) is something we probably should proceed with when we look at the opportunities that I believe it is going to present Northwest Missouri with," Klindt told KXCV News this week. "I believe it's probably a good deal. It's not going to be an easy process but we're going to push for it."

The seven-page bill, derived from the original Memorandum of Understanding, outlines everything from the student curator position to the duties of the Missouri arboretum, as well as the four points of section 172.925.

The first point emphasizes that the bill is "consistent with the provisions of the Memorandum of Understanding entered into by and between the curators of the University of Missouri system and the Board of Regents of Northwest Missouri State University."

It later states Northwest "may be transferred to the curators of the University of Missouri. After such an agreement is accomplished, Northwest Missouri State University shall thereafter be known as the 'University of Missouri-Northwest.'"

Klindt told KXCV a bill was drafted "for some time" prior to the formal introduction. It's just a matter of letting it go through the legislative process now, he said.

Lewis, who was active in writing the memorandum and helped with the language in the bill, said mixed reaction from students is expected.

"(Students) love Northwest the way it is and they're asking, 'Why should we change that?'" Lewis said. "The bottom line is Northwest is great the way it is and if we can guarantee that Missouri Western would never change, then maybe we wouldn't have to merge. But we're not sure they won't change."

(Please see 'Merger' page A5)

Northwest plans health week

By SCOTT HILL
MISSOURIAN REPORTER

Students can learn to live happier and healthier lives by taking advantage of a variety of health programs during next week's National Collegiate Health and Wellness Week.

Northwest Missouri State University will host more than seven different events March 8-12, including a Diabetes and breast cancer forum, a female health presentation and a bioterrorism discussion. HIV awareness tables will also be set up in the Student Union to provide students with the basic knowledge of the disease.

The University Health Center says that taking care of your body should be a part of everyone's daily concerns.

"Listen to your body," said Virginia Murr, assistant director of the University Health Center. "If you have a minor illness, take care of it quickly to prevent it from becoming worse."

According to Murr, the Health Center has seen people suffering from upper respiratory problems, flu, upset stomachs and stress-related illnesses.

"We see a lot of stress-related illness and that's something a lot of college students may not be very aware of," Murr said. "Ongoing stress really does change your body's immunity and the ability to fight infection."

These kind of illnesses can be prevented by getting adequate rest, reducing stress levels and living with a good moderation in lifestyle.

"Clinical data suggests that you get at least eight hours of sleep per night, but that's probably not very realistic for a college student," Murr said. "You can actually get re-energized by taking short naps and that fits in pretty well with most student schedules."

National Health and Awareness Week begins on Monday at 7 p.m., with an aerobics seminar in the Union living room.

Activities for Health Week

March 8
Aerobics and Taking Care of Yourself, Union Living Room, 7 p.m.

March 9
HPERD Club Health Fair, 10 a.m.-3 p.m.

Women and Health, Union Meeting Room A, 7 p.m.

Bioterrorism Discussion, Union Ballroom, 7 p.m.

March 10
Diabetes and Breast Cancer, Union Lakeview room, 7 p.m.

March 11
Spa Night, Union Ballroom, 10 p.m.

March 12
HIV Awareness Table at the Union, 11 a.m.-1 p.m.

* Other activities are pending final plans

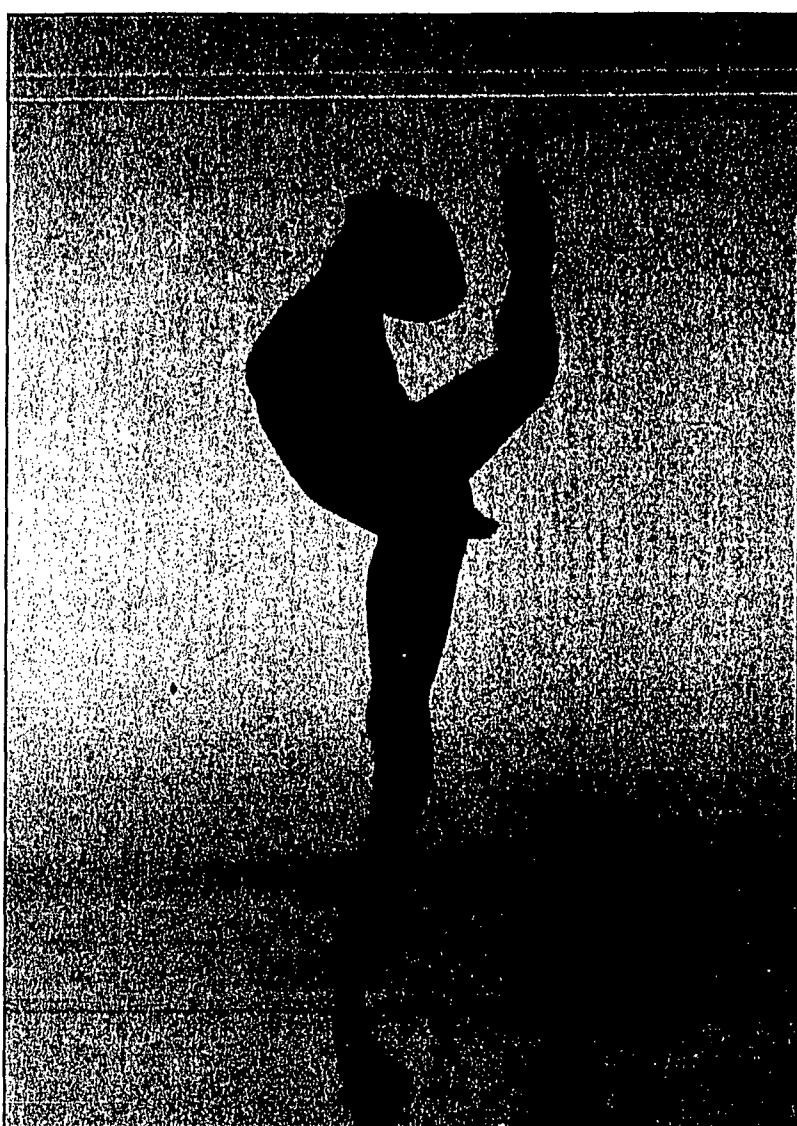


PHOTO COURTESY OF UNIVERSITY RELATIONS

The MOMIX dancer uses ballet moves as she elongates her body to represent one of the many objects of the desert. "Opus Cactus" performers will show many unique dance structures.

Dance company offers unique performance

Using only the human body, a couple of lights and props, MOMIX Dance Company brings illusion and enchantment to Northwest.

MOMIX Dance Company "Opus Cactus" will appear at Northwest at 7 p.m. March 9 in the Mary Linn Performing Arts Center.

Moses Pendalton, the artistic director and choreographer of MOMIX Dance Company, has been in the forefront of illusionary performances for 23 years.

Pendalton and his dance company has created a variety of illusionary performances, one in particular called "Orbit," where performers simulated space objects such as Sputnik.

His new production "Opus Cactus" serves as a visionary experience where performers act as visual images placed in the desert.

The fleshly beings that make up

the desert scenes are human bodies intertwined together to create images that look like cactuses and slithering snakes. The dancers use their bodies along with glamorous costumes and a variety of music from New Age to traditional, creating an illusionary experience of 19 desert images that captivate the audience.

The dancers use acrobatics, gymnastics, ballet and human puppetry to create desert images, according to *The Chicago Sun-Times*.

Ticket prices are \$20 for orchestra seating, \$17 for balcony seating and \$14 for children under 10 years old.

Tickets can be purchased online at www.nwmissouri.edu/tickets/encore.htm or at the Student Services Desk in the Administration Building.

Researched by Burne'a Cothrine, *Missourian Reporter*

Northwest newcomer provides new direction as the Dean of Missouri Academy

By LACEY BAGELEY
MISSOURIAN REPORTER

A far stretch from playing semiprofessional soccer in Zimbabwe 30 years ago, Missouri Academy's newest dean weathers cold temperatures to promote the academic success of a small group of high school students.

Cleo Samudzi took over the Missouri Academy of Science, Mathematics and Computing on Feb. 1, replacing interim dean Edward Farquhar and is looking forward to working in the Academy.

"Most students don't realize what they have here at Northwest," Samudzi said. "Northwest is well-known throughout the country for their quality improvement process."

Samudzi was unanimously chosen for the position by a committee of Northwest faculty who held a national search to fill the position. Provost Taylor Barnes, who was part of the committee, believed Samudzi was the most qualified person for the job.

"When he became a part of the candidate pool, he slowly rose to the top," Barnes said.

Samudzi was born and raised in Zimbabwe. He was the second child of seven and spent much of his spare time at school or helping his siblings with their homework. His parents understood the importance of an education for their son's future and supported him in that area.

"My parents were always very strict about education," Samudzi said. "They finished high school only and just like any other parents, they wanted to see their kids do better than they did."

When he was 18 years old, he was offered an academic scholarship to Dakota Wesleyan University in Mitchell, S.D. He graduated there with a double major in biology and chemistry and a minor in mathematics. He received his doctorate in biological sciences with an emphasis in crystallography from the University of Pittsburgh. Samudzi's education was significant in the choice to make him dean of the Academy.

"He has a strong background in science and this is a science academy," Barnes said. "He also has an excellent grasp on the needs of higher education

in Missouri and a good grasp of interaction with the Department of Education."

Samudzi has worked for the National Cancer Institute, the Missouri Department of Higher Education and has taught biochemistry at the University of Missouri-Columbia. His wife and two children will come to live with him in Maryville after they finish out the 2003-2004 school year.

In the last few weeks Samudzi has met with the parents, students and faculty of the Academy. His main goal is refining the services offered by the school, which includes hanging out with students.

"It all comes down to my interest in what education really means and all the faults that I see in the system and trying to do my part to change what I can," Samudzi said.

Over the weekend Samudzi was getting to know some students by playing soccer with and injured his Achilles tendon. He is scheduled for surgery to repair the damage, but will spend the next several weeks recovering from it.

Lisa Carrico, residential counselor for the Missouri Academy, was fascinated by her first impression of Samudzi. She said his drive inspires the staff.

"He is determined to make the Academy a success," Carrico said. "He puts his heart and soul into it."



CLEO SAMUDZI

University Events

Thurs. 4 ■ Musical, "A Funny Thing Happened on the Way to the Forum," MLA, 7:30 p.m.

Fri. 5 ■ Musical, "A Funny Thing Happened on the Way to the Forum," MLA, 7:30 p.m.

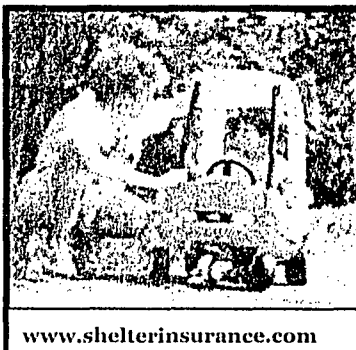
Sat. 6 ■ Musical, "A Funny Thing Happened on the Way to the Forum," MLA, 7:30 p.m.
■ Dance and Drag Show, Union Ballroom, 7 p.m.

Sun. 7 ■ Sunday Night Church, Union Ballroom, 9 p.m.

Mon. 8 ■ National Collegiate Health and Fitness Week

Tues. 9 ■ Encore: "MOMIX," MLA, 7:30 p.m.

Wed. 10 ■ Greek Life and Minority Men's Organization, Union Ballroom, 7:30 p.m.



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First phase of Airport construction to begin in fall

By JARED HOFFMANN
MISSOURIAN REPORTER

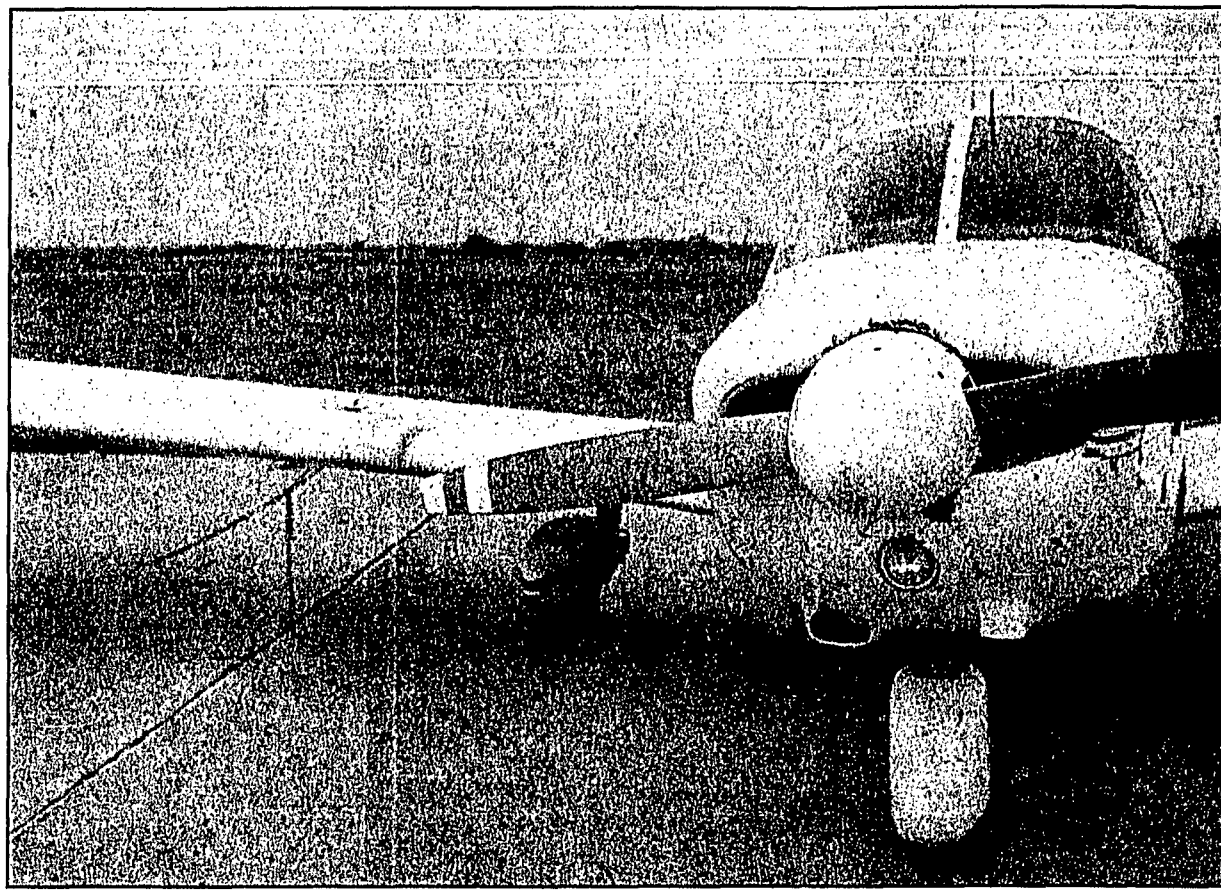
Things are looking up for the Northwest Missouri Regional Airport as phase one of a massive reconstruction process is set to begin.

Three ordinances were passed by the Maryville City Council last week, officially commencing the changes that will be made to the airport during the reconstruction process. A new terminal building, bigger hangars, relocation of Hawk road and runway expansion are some of the tasks set to be completed during the first phase.

According to Assistant City Manager Matt Unrein, this first phase of the three-part plan is projected to run through 2007. The entire project is slated for completion by 2022.

Andy Macias of Snyder & Associates engineering said there is no exact start date for the project, but hopes to break ground sometime next fall. Macias said the relocation of Hawk road, the airport's main access road, will clear a lot of room for other areas of construction.

"We will get rid of some clear-



A Navajo airplane is taxied in front of Northwest Missouri Regional Airport's existing runway. The reconstruction of the airport will involve expanding the runway to allow for larger aircraft.

PHOTO BY NIKI CARDER/CHIEF PHOTOGRAPHER

ance that way," Macias said. "It will allow for the expansion of the runway in the future."

While all the airport renovations will constitute a new-and-improved facility, airport board member Matt Baker said that one of the highlights is a new 80 foot by 80 foot terminal building.

"The goal is to sort of improve the eye appeal and show economic development in our community," Baker said. "It's a gateway for some businesses when they come to Maryville for the first time."

Baker said the new terminal

building is funded separately from the rest of the project. U.S. Sen. Kit Bond has placed funding in a bill for an economic development package. Construction of the terminal can begin as soon as those funds are released.

"We are anticipating the money to be released very soon," Baker said. "Our intent is to receive the money within the next 60 days."

According to Unrein, 95 percent of the rest of the project's funding will come from the Missouri Department of Transportation, with the remaining five per-

cent to be generated from local revenue. In addition, a \$500,000 grant was issued by Missouri Congressman Sam Graves and a \$300,000 grant was allocated by the MoDOT from the Federal Transportation Bill.

Unrein said that having an updated facility will benefit Maryville as well as the surrounding areas.

"It will have a great economic benefit for the community as well as the entire northwest region," Unrein said. "I think it's pretty substantial."

Jared Hoffmann can be reached at 562-1224 or jhoffmann@missourianonline.com

Local teacher proposes use for empty land

By AARON BAILEY
COMMUNITY NEWS EDITOR

Nearly a year since the demolition of Washington Middle School, a local teacher has a unique idea about what to do with the vacated land.

Building Trades Instructor Reggie Koop of Maryville High School's vocational technology program proposed a possible use for the land to the School Board last month.

Each year the Building Trades program has a project in which students get the opportunity to build a house on a lot of land purchased by the school district. The district then sells the house after construction is completed.

But this year, Superintendent Jay Reese asked Koop to come up with some alternative ideas for this year's project. One of Koop's proposals entailed building residences on the Washington Middle School land.

"What we'd like to do is build duplexes up there," Koop said. "It would be an upscale area and better than some of the duplexes we see around town right now."

Although there are no current plans for the land, Reese said he was interested in Koop's proposal.

"I certainly think it would be a great recruiting tool for us to be able to say we have apartments or condos available for the people we might bring in," Reese said.

The School Board will discuss this year's Building Trades program project at the next meeting later this month, but there is no set date for when the district will decide what to do with the land.

Community events

Thurs. 4 ■ **CAT PAWS Forage Production and Utilization Conference**, Clatsby Center, Savannah
■ **A Woman's Heart Study**, 8:30 a.m., First Baptist Church

Fri. 5 ■ **World Day of Prayer**
■ **Men's Prayer Breakfast**, 7 a.m., Hy-Vee

Sat. 6 ■ **Lenten Prayer Retreat**, 9 a.m. to 3 p.m., St. Paul's Church

Sun. 7 ■ **Elder's Breakfast**, 7 a.m., First Christian Church
■ **Girl Scout Day**

Mon. 8 ■ **Council of Ministries**, 7 p.m., First Christian Church
■ **International Woman's Day**

Tues. 9 ■ **Dollar Cone Night**, 7-9 p.m., Baskin Robbins
■ **Financial Record Keeping with Quicken**, 6-9 p.m., Savannah Middle School

Wed. 10 ■ **Nodaway County University Extension Council Meeting**, 6:30 p.m., Applebee's

■ **Soup Supper**, 6 p.m., First Presbyterian Church

If you would like to have your event published, please call 562-1224 or e-mail ab Bailey@missourianonline.com

Learning about culture

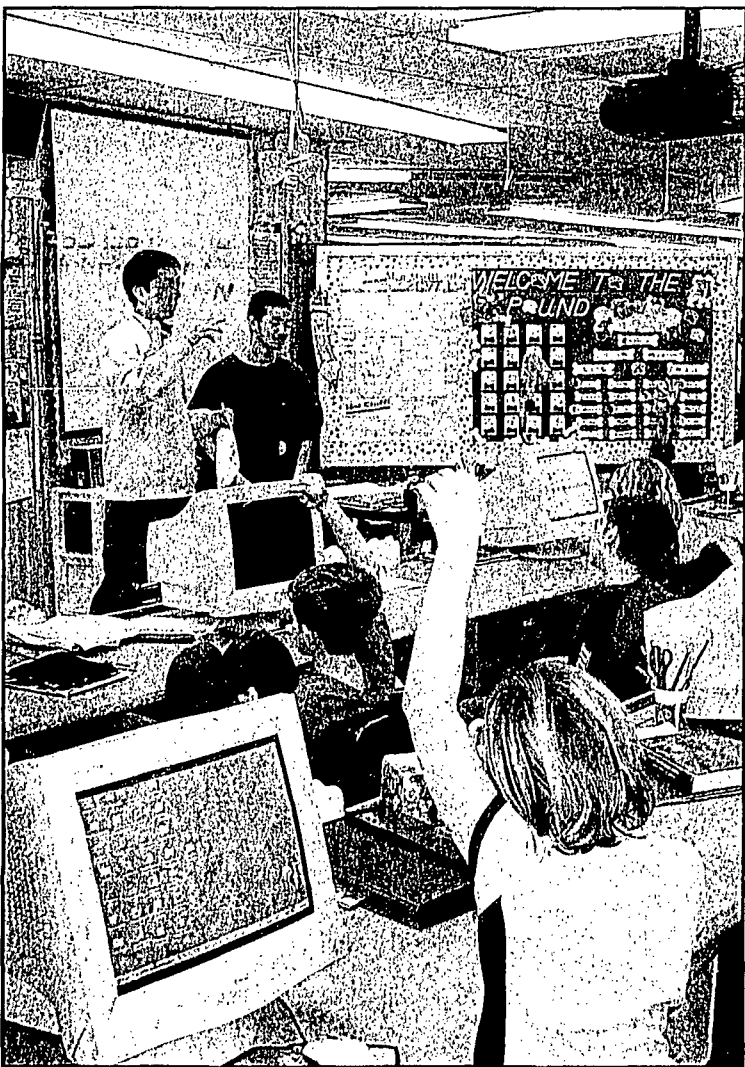


PHOTO BY AARON BAILEY/COMMUNITY NEWS EDITOR

Eugene Field fourth-graders ask Yao-Chieh Young and Nobutaka Nakamura from the Asian Student Association, questions about their native countries. The group gave a presentation Tuesday explaining different aspects of Asian culture.

Maryville car dealership changes hands

By JESSICA SWARTZ
MISSOURIAN REPORTER

They say that change is good and if that's the case, one Maryville car dealership is performing tremendously well.

In the past three years Northwest Chrysler, Dodge and Jeep has switched hands twice. And now it's entitled White Chrysler, Dodge and Jeep.

"We changed the name to make a separation," said Tim White, owner of White Chrysler, Dodge and Jeep. "Northwest Ford has a similar name and we didn't want our customers ending up there by mistake."

The purchase took place Feb. 5 when previous owner Mark Gregg sold the business to White, who has

been the general manager for the last couple of years. Prior to that, he had been in the automotive business for 16 years in Mound City.

"This is my first time owning a business," White said. "It's been a goal for a long time."

According to White, he had attempted to purchase the business several years ago, but "that hadn't worked out." It was at that time that Gregg purchased it.

White is confident in his new business' success and is excited at its prospects.

"We want to continue the growth," White said. "We've done a good job taking it from where it was to where it is now in service and product."

One employee has seen all those changes.

"I worked for the company when it was Bagby Motors," Sales Representative Jerry Lutz said. "I'm looking forward to working with White Chrysler and I'm ready to run with it."

Several changes are in their initial stage.

"Down the road in the next two and a half years, we plan on a new facility," White said. "The age and the lack of parking at this building won't allow us to stay here. Chrysler has certain requirements that you have to meet in order to be an owner. The facility is a lot of the image you project."

While he plans changes for location, White has not made any staff changes.

"I've worked for both owners," Receptionist Terri Gerlach said. "Since he

was general manager, I've worked with Mr. White before the change of ownership. I really enjoy working for him."

Gerlach has worked for the company since September and is only one of the employees who is a student at Northwest. The majority of White's employees live in Maryville.

White admits to a great deal of pride in the community. He graduated from Northwest in 1981, where his wife has been an instructor for several years. White is a member of the Chamber of Commerce and the Tau Kappa Epsilon board, and is also actively involved in the Maryville Rotary Club.

"I've lived in Maryville for 21 years," White said. "I've got three little daughters. Hopefully they'll become Bearcats later."

St. Francis to be completely smoke-free by end of the year

By JESSICA EAGEN
MISSOURIAN REPORTER

St. Francis Hospital and Health Services plans to snuff out tobacco inside and out later this year.

Last month St. Francis, a member of Sisters Of St. Mary Health Care, was informed of a new company-wide tobacco-free initiative.

American Cancer Society's Great American Smokeout Day on Nov. 18, 2004 will launch SSM's tobacco-free en-

vironment. This will put an end to tobacco use on all SSM premises. Included in this policy are current designated areas for smoking such as outside of entrances and parking lots.

Sister Mary Jean Ryan, President and CEO of SSM Health Care, released an e-mail to all employees about the new policy.

All employees includes not only those in the actual health care profession but also those who work in environments such as administration, or the community re-

lations department.

"Health care is just too important to be supporting one of America's most dangerous habits," said Rita Miller, community relations director at St. Francis.

According to Ryan, the U.S. Surgeon General issued a national health goal to cut adult smoking to 12 percent by 2010, due to reports of 46 million people smoking in 2001.

"As a health care organization committed to the health and safety of its employees, patients and their families, it is

our responsibility to take a leadership role on this major public health care issue," Ryan said when making the announcement of the tobacco-free initiative.

The new policy does not mean that employees must quit smoking, but they do have to abide by the new regulations while on the premises.

"If we are educating people on how to care for themselves, why illustrate to them the bad habits that we are asking them to stop," Community Relations Associate Theresa Melnick said.

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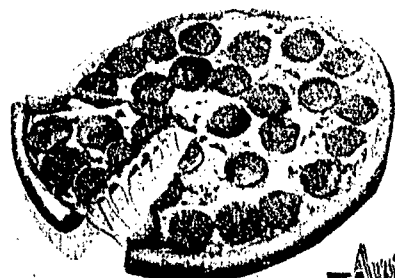
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Our View

A closer look

Student Senate makes wise choice in reviewing student opinions for proposed Student Activities Fee

A proposal to bring big name acts like Nelly and Tim McGraw seems unrealistic to the average student on campus.

What seems drastic to some is the \$50 per trimester Student Activities Fee to upgrade Northwest's entertainment to the big names instead of the has-beens. In addition, students who decide not to attend the events lose their \$100 a year.

Perhaps if Student Senate had spent the time to inform others earlier about the activity fee, then the organization would not have to spend time re-evaluating the proposal.

Nevertheless, we at *The Missourian* applaud Student Senate for their decision to stand by its responsibility to represent the student voice.

Hopefully in the future, however, when issues such as the merger and activities fee come up, Senate will take the time to follow through with its job to inform its constituents early, thereby eliminating unneeded confusion and apathy.

Student Senate should also challenge itself to gather more than the average 15 percent of the student body vote.

More importantly, Senators need to better publicize and correctly inform students.

Student Senate has now given itself a timeline in order to finally execute its job correctly in representing the student voice on the Student Activities Fee.

From now until Apr. 12, both a committee and Senators will examine how it will inform students, decide whether to change the cost of the fee and Senate will have students vote on WebSTAR instead of through campus e-mail.

The committee has until March 16 to revise the proposal and present changes to Student Senate. The tentative date for placing the Student Activities Fee up for vote will be Apr. 12-16.

By April 30 Senate hopes to have both the President's Cabinet and the Board of Regents' decision on the fee. That timeframe will give Senators until the end of April to better represent its student body.

In return, students themselves need to take the time Senate has given them to get involved, to voice their concerns and to make changes.

Students need to act if they do not like the proposal. They need to speak their minds in order to make changes on the proposal.

If not, the time will be wasted and apathy will continue to harm the issue, leaving the decision up to the 28 senators instead of the 6,500 students that make up the student body.

Hopefully, Senate's efforts through this timely process will teach them to improve upon its process in publicizing issues earlier so others' opinions can be voiced.

Even though the next activities fee vote will not take place until April, that time will give both Senate and students a chance to determine whether the fee is truly feasible.

Student Senate needs to make sure it continues to consider its constituents and grasp their opinions and ideas. More importantly, Senators need to keep students informed. And we once again applaud them for realizing this.

As a result, we at *The Missourian* hope and trust that April vote will have better voter turnout.



Missourian Backtalk
562-1980

"I find it ironic that some fraternity guys were handing out key chains to promote the Safe Ride Program. Isn't that sort of an oxymoron or something?"

"Good luck Bearcats in the MIAA Tournament!"



Relative's passing brings life into perspective

I've always looked at Lincoln, Neb., as the cathedral for Husker football, the only capital with a corn sewer on top of its capitol building, and as a wannabe city 40 miles west of Omaha.

But that all changed last Friday. Sure, my aunt and uncle and their two kids lived there, but it wasn't until entering St. Joseph's Catholic Church that I saw my life come full circle.

It all started Feb. 25, Ash Wednesday, when I attended the Newman Center-sponsored mass in the Union Ballroom. Everything was going fine as I sat and prayed for my Aunt Sandy, (who lives in Lincoln) who was continuing her battle with stomach cancer.

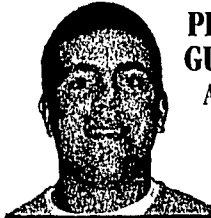
As the mass was wrapping up my cell phone buzzed. It was my house phone in Omaha. "Who would be calling me from home in the middle of the day?" I thought. When I called my house minutes later, I heard the news I dreaded to ever hear: Sandy lost her battle with cancer. Part of me was shocked, while the other part was somewhat relieved.

The rest of Wednesday was a blur. The thought of not seeing my Uncle Mike without his best friend never seeped into my mind; I was still numb.

But then things started coming together. Lent began and the long-awaited movie "The Passion of the Christ" was

Under the 'Scope

PETE GUTSCHENRITTER
ASSIGNMENT EDITOR



released. I had to see it. And after my friend graciously gave up her ticket to the Thursday night showing, I knew something was going to happen (and no, I didn't expect a "counselor" to preach before or after the show). Mel Gibson's \$27 million movie was absolutely amazing. But something was still missing as I walked out still half-numb. There was more.

After the two-hour car ride with my younger sister, we were in my neighborhood, minutes away from piling into the minivan with the fam. I didn't know how the trip would be, but as it turned out, we had a lot of fun. But once I arrived at St. Joseph's, I had no idea what was about to happen.

Sandy's two kids remind me a lot of myself and my older sister, they always had. And once I heard the speech that Sandy's daughter Jenny gave on Nov. 27,

2003, it hit me—they are exactly like my family.

In her speech she declared the feelings she had for her husband, her brother and her sister-in-law; but most importantly, her parents. And as her journal entry on Feb. 27 described the void of not being able to talk to her mom three times a day, there wasn't a dry eye in the house.

And after watching the movie of her life and looking at pictures of her Husker-red-clad days at bowl games to pictures with Jenny, it was clear; Sandy meant the world to us.

Sandy had battled stomach cancer for 18 months and had suffered excruciating pain the last few days of her life. But now she is free from pain and as her four grandchildren lifted their baby blue balloons into the sun-splashed sky, things felt right.

And after I realized how important she meant to her family, I came to the conclusion that an internship, an 'A' in Theories of Mass Communication or box seats to a Cubs game are all material things.

Although all of those things are great, they pale in comparison to spending time with family and friends. All I ask is that you check and make sure the important people in your life are ahead of the important things in life.

Because it wasn't until I went under the 'scope that I checked.

Campus hit and run a dangerous epidemic

Without the help of the Mail and Copy Center, our University would be unable to supply its students with the necessary paperwork it needs, or me with the license plate number of a truck who hit my car and drove away.

It seems a woman in the Mail and Copy Center thought it was odd to see a Ford truck back into a little white Cavalier and then watch the driver walk away as if nothing happened. Imagine that. She took down the license plate number of the truck and gave it to Campus Safety. Next it was my turn to find out the news.

Imagine my surprise when I answered the phone and heard the Campus Safety officer on the other line say, "Your car has been involved in a hit and run accident and we need you to come over to the Campus Safety office."

Being the girl that I am, I immediately burst into tears and ran to my car, expecting to see nothing left but a hubcap.

As I round the corner I am relieved to find my car in one piece but slightly bruised. My hood was crumpled and the paint was falling off in one place, but other than that I was in the clear.

My View

STEPHANIE SUCKOW
MANAGING EDITOR



After evaluating the damage the tears subsided and anger surfaced. I couldn't help but take the situation personally.

After telling my friends my sob story, I asked them if they knew why someone would do this to me? And why the person who did it wouldn't find out whose car they hit and tell me they're sorry?

"Because they didn't want to get caught," they answered. Apparently it was that simple.

This business of hitting cars and leaving the scene was nothing new to them, in fact several of my friends admitted to committing the crime themselves.

"No harm, no foul," is the common phrase I've heard. "If it doesn't look

broken then it doesn't need to be dealt with. Nevermind that upon closer look the blue paint on the car you hit has now been replaced by black from your own vehicle.

Maybe I'm just too much of a "glass half-full" kind of girl, but I honestly didn't know this was going on. I just can't imagine throwing my car into reverse, slamming into someone else's car and then leaving without so much as an apology.

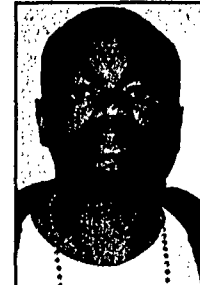
My conscience would undoubtedly take over and force me to confess, but apparently that's not the case on this campus.

I realized by sharing my story with others that what I went through was not an uncommon occurrence. Everyone who heard it was unimpressed and followed it by sharing a similar story of damage done to their own vehicles. In fact, several of them were jealous of me for finding out who had done it, because they had to pay for the damage themselves, even though they weren't even near their car when it happened.

This isn't fair and it needs to stop. Learn how to reverse and look out for more than yourself. It's that simple.

YOUR VIEW

Are you planning on using Northwest's new Safe Ride Home program?



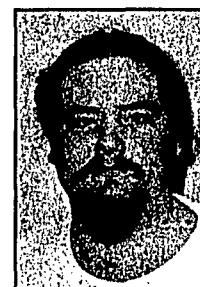
"Yes. I plan on using it because I don't want to drive home drunk."

Ahmod Martin
Physical Education



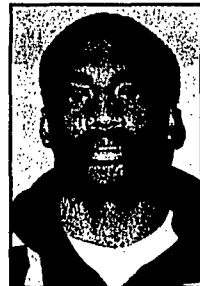
"Well, I think it's a good program but I won't be using it because I don't live in town."

Ashley Cunningham
English



"I actually very well may. I turned 21 last week. It's got to be better than doing the drunken stagger home and a hell of a lot better than driving. You can either get hurt, get busted or both."

James Armstrong
Instrumental Music Education



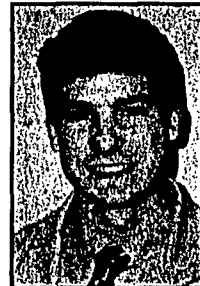
"I don't drink really, so no. But it's a good thing to have."

Keanan Weir
Graduate Student



"I'm not planning on using it myself, but I'm in favor of anything that'll make drunk people less obnoxious."

Nathan Easton
Psychology



"Yes, because it's a really good program to keep people from drinking and driving and I heard that if not enough people use it this semester, they won't do it next year."

Zach McCoppin
Business Management, Marketing

The Northwest Missourian is an independent learning environment providing the best source of information and advertising for our community.

Questions? Comments about *The Northwest Missourian*? Story ideas? We would like to hear from you. If you do not find the person you need on the right, please contact Abby Simons at 660-562-1224, by fax at 660-562-1521, by e-mail at northwestmissourian@hotmail.com or write us at 800 University Drive, Wells Hall 6, Maryville, MO 64468.

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We want to hear your views on this issue and others. Call *The Missourian* Back Talk line at 562-1980. E-mail your letter to the editor to northwestmissourian@hotmail.com or send it by mail to: *The Northwest Missourian*, Wells Hall 6, 800 University Drive, Maryville, MO 64468. Letters are limited to 250 words due to space constraints. All letters must be signed; students should include their major. *The Missourian* reserves the right to edit all letters.

CONTINUED from 1A

Merger's fate rests with legislators

Missouri Western State College and Southwest Missouri State University have both tried to change names and missions.

And with Missouri Southern becoming a state university, the question about the quantity and tuition prices of four-year institutions in Missouri has become the issue.

"I think the rate at which tuition at public institutions increase in the state of Missouri is very con-

cerning," State Rep. Brad Lager said. "The average family can no longer afford to send their kids to school with double-digit increases each year."

Overall, Lewis said the merger is the right thing to do.

"If the merger passes, (Northwest) probably won't need me because the UM system has (its) own lawyers," she said. "If I have to go get another job, that's fine; so long as Northwest is in good shape."

CONTINUED from 1A

Budget cuts leave local district standing

Reese recently received information that an appropriations bill with a \$20 million increase for education may soon be passed, which should help the district.

"It pretty much means we'll be keeping stable next year," Reese said. "The good news is that it's not a reduction. But my main concern isn't what is appropriated in May or June, it's going to be what's actually there next school year."

Reese said he has never seen a reduction of funding during an election year.

And even though he is troubled by what is currently happening in Jefferson City, he does think the education funding being withheld by Missouri Gov. Bob Holden may soon be released.

"I'm very disappointed that the whole issue is being politicized the way it is and that there's a lot of finger pointing," he said. "In my opinion, I don't think there's a lot of long-range thought into fixing the problem."

Another issue surrounding the problem is the fact that more and more teachers are spending their own money for classroom supplies.

"I think about 100 percent of the teachers buy things out of their own pocket for classroom use," Weichinger said. "We're asking parents to provide more supplies for

school that we used to provide. But teachers are still going to do the very best they can and we're still providing a quality program."

In spite of the funding problem facing Missouri's schools, Maryville R-II schools haven't let the problem stymie progress yet. Yesterday marked a groundbreaking for a construction project at Eugene Field.

A \$7,350,000 bond that passed last April is funding the construction, as well as projects planned at Maryville High School, slated to begin later this month.

Reese hopes the construction at Eugene Field will be completed by August, which will include six new classrooms, music and art rooms and renovating the inside of the school.

There will also be a new main entrance located by a new administration area that will enable officials to monitor who enters and exits the school more closely, enhancing security.

Although he is retiring at the end of the school year, Weichinger is glad to see the improvements begin.

"When you come to work in a new building, you get a little better feeling about everything," he said.

Aaron Bailey can be contacted at 562-1224 or aballey@missourianonline.com

CONTINUED from 1A

Northwest gay couples stand up for right to marry; others beg to differ

because such relationships are considered a sin.

"The Christian would take the position that since the Bible advocates that homosexuality is an unnatural lifestyle, and therefore, is a sin in God's eyes, then same-sex marriage would also be wrong," Haggett said. "The root argument goes back to Genesis chapters one and two in which God establishes the institution of marriage as being between one man and one woman."

Additionally, Heather Lompe, a lesbian Northwest student, believes marriage is a right that should be granted to all.

Cori Cox, Lompe's partner, maintains a similar view.

"Love is love," Cox said. "It doesn't really matter where the basis is. If two people love each other, they should be able to get married."

Northwest advertising major Erin

Stewart shares the same belief.

"Homosexuals are people too," Stewart said. "They also have the dream of having a family and if it makes them happy, it should not remain illegal for them just because they want to marry someone of the same sex."

Other Northwest students disagree.

"It's biblically and morally wrong," said freshman Allison Kahre. "Being homosexual is a choice people make to express themselves, but there are other more socially acceptable ways to express oneself."

In 1996 President Bill Clinton signed the Defense of Marriage Act that prohibits the federal recognition of gay marriage, defines marriage as strictly between a man and a woman and declares that it isn't required for a state to recognize a gay marriage license issued in a different state. However, the latter may be deemed un-

constitutional because of the "full faith and credit" clause of the Constitution, which requires states to recognize similar laws enforced in other states.

According to State Rep. Brad Lager, Missouri is currently proposing an amendment to the Missouri constitution that would ban same-sex marriages because of the clause.

Lager says the decision is ultimately up to citizens of Missouri.

"Missouri is simply proposing the amendment. It will go to a vote of the people probably in the November election," Lager said. "However, I believe that Missourians will support the measure."

Democratic Presidential candidate Sen. John Kerry supports banning same-sex marriages, only if the right to civil unions is included in the measure. Lompe doesn't agree with this.

"If the government is going to allow

civil unions, they should just take the next step and allow gay marriages," Lompe said. "Marriage can either be recognized by the state or by religion, but when it comes down to it, marriage is simply a contract between two people."

Lance Lewis, a gay member of the community, agrees with Lompe.

"The government says that civil unions are something different but equal to a marriage," Lewis said. "But by my understanding, separate but equal is unconstitutional."

Haggett stressed that even though his beliefs clash with those of homosexuals, this doesn't change how he views them as people.

"Even though I think that same-sex marriages are 'unbiblical and therefore wrong, that is not to indicate that I do not love homosexuals as people,' Haggett said. "Because I do."

CONTINUED from 1A

Auxier awaits arraignment for alleged statutory rape of 16-year-old male

"It always depends on the status of the victim," Wood said. "In this case, because the victim was a juvenile at the time of the occurrence, he doesn't have the legal standing to say 'I am' or 'am not a victim.'"

While the case falls under the jurisdiction of Nodaway County Prosecutor David Baird, he motioned for the appointment of a special prosecutor, citing a potential conflict of interest. Baird is

employed as an attorney for the city of Maryville, for which Auxier's husband is also employed. In the capacity of city attorney, Baird provides legal advice to that individual and his department. Assistant Nodaway County Prosecutor Pat McLaughlin is also employed as Maryville City prosecutor, and at Northwest's department of business, where Auxier was previously employed as a secretary.

Scroggins, who serves as Buchanan County Prosecuting Attorney, will handle the case in Nodaway County.

In spite of the charges against Auxier, Reese said that the district annually trains teachers through sexual harassment workshops prior to the beginning of each school year.

"It's basically in dealing with other staff members and with students," Reese said. "Teaching them, essentially, that any

type of inappropriate contact is just unacceptable, particularly when it comes to students."

And while the accusations against Auxier are an isolated incident in the school district, Reese said inappropriate relationships between students and teachers is a problem that won't fade soon.

"Unfortunately, I think it's becoming more prevalent," he said.

CONTINUED from 1A

Charles McAdams selected to take over long-vacant arts and sciences dean position

"We had a consensus across campus that Dr. McAdams could best meet the challenges and opportunities we may face in the future," Barnes said.

Since May 2001 Northwest has been in constant debate on a decision to hire a permanent dean for the College of Arts and Sciences. Various financial situations caused the department to change interim deans twice.

After careful consideration, the depart-

ment decided to open the position for a permanent dean last October.

According to Barnes, 21 applicants throughout the United States applied for the position. The dean's council, arts and sciences chair council and search committee narrowed the selection down to three.

McAdams said that as dean at CMSU, he directs a staff of more than 200 with a budget of more than \$13 million.

"During his years at Central he has

demonstrated a strong focus on students, faculty governance and administrative leadership," Barnes said.

Veeman says he looks forward to working with McAdams in his transition to the University.

"With his background, he will be a great addition to Northwest," Veeman said.

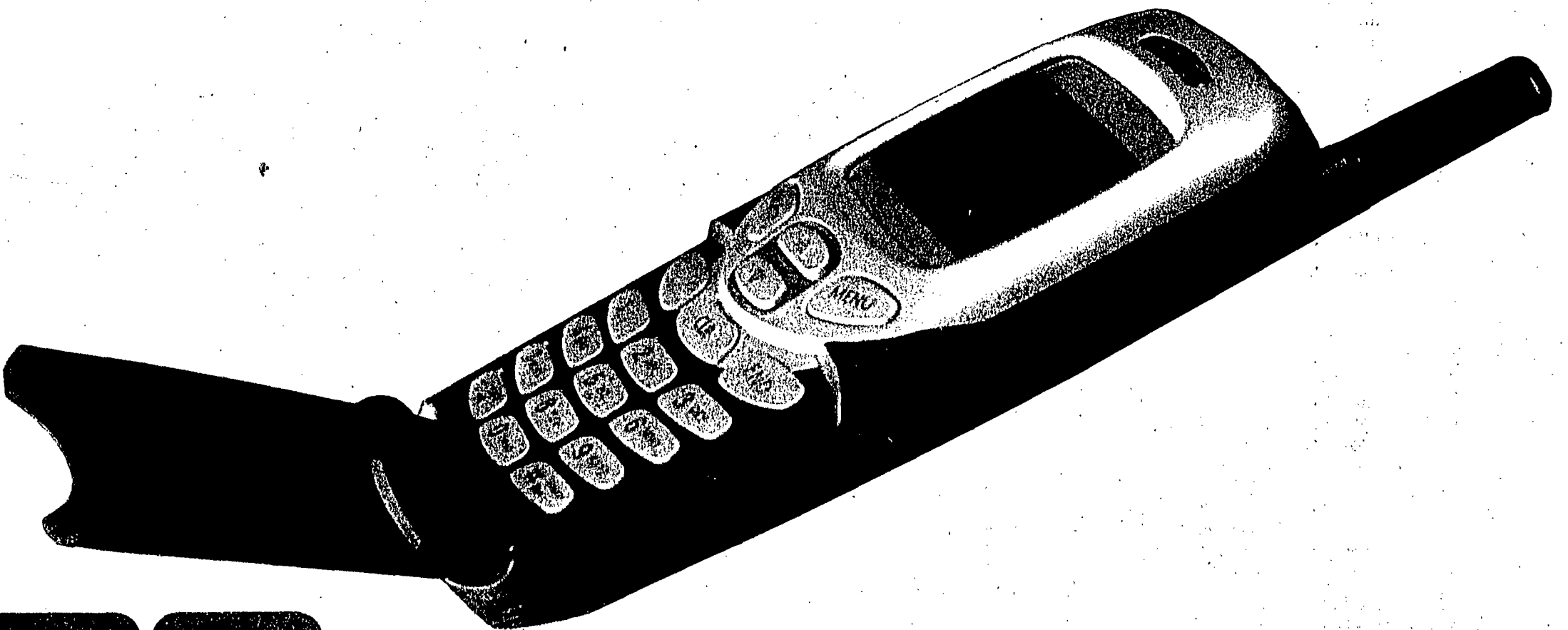
McAdams worked for CMSU in various leadership positions for 21

years. With a doctorate in music education, he has achieved the status as a tenured professor at CMSU. He also has served as chair of the music department for the last eight years.

McAdams said he decided to take the opportunity and apply for the position as dean because of Northwest's quality.

McAdams will begin his position June 1.

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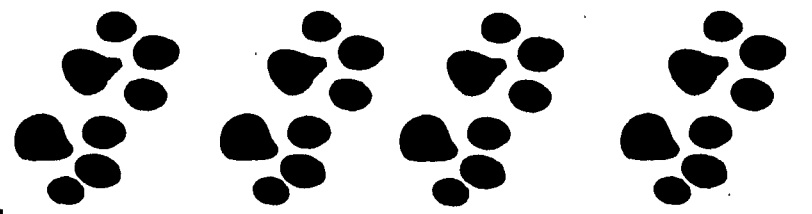


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MOVING ON UP



Animals find a home at new Nodaway County Animal Shelter

By BETSY LEE
FEATURES EDITOR



PHOTO BY LAURA CADY/CHIEF PHOTOGRAPHER
A puppy peers through the bars of his cage. The litter of six were some of the first dogs to be housed in the new animal shelter.



PHOTO BY NIKI CARDER/CHIEF PHOTOGRAPHER
Genevieve Fulson gets a tour of the newly constructed Humane Society from Chanda Funston, former president of the New Nodaway Humane Society. The women attended the Feb. 28 Humane Society Gala which gave board members a chance to view the new facility.

PHOTO BY LAURA CADY/CHIEF PHOTOGRAPHER
Rachel Osborne lifts a black cat into her new home at the animal shelter. Workers moved most of the cats into their new cages Monday March 1.

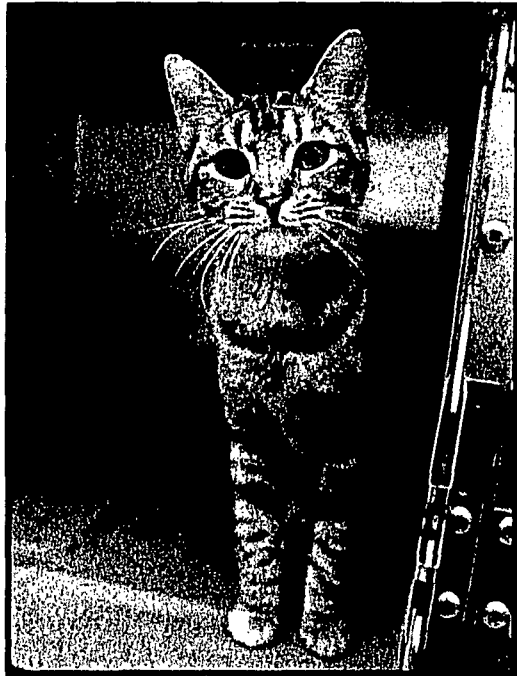


PHOTO BY LAURA CADY/CHIEF PHOTOGRAPHER
Lexi, a cat waiting to be adopted, sits in one of the new animal shelter cat cages. Cats are housed in one of the three new buildings; the cat building supports 72 felines.

With 55 dog kennels and room to house 72 cats, the new Nodaway County Animal Shelter will provide a cleaner, safer environment for homeless pets.

"It's an unbelievable change," said Merla Findley, president of the New Nodaway Humane Society. "It's a night and day difference. The (old facility) was so horrible; it's like going from the dark ages to modern times."

The previous animal shelter consisted of one building with 16 dog kennels and a trailer, which could house up to 30 cats. An outside area served as an overflow pen, leaving some dogs outside to brave the cold.

"A lot of times people wouldn't even look at the dogs outside because they were dirtier and harder to see," Findley said.

Construction of the new facility began in June, while fund-raising and planning began more than 4 years ago. Findley said the facility cost about \$700,000. She said the board is still looking for help offsetting the cost of construction.

Sonya Roe, director of the Nodaway County Animal Shelter, said the three-building facility is state of the art. According to Roe, the ventilation systems will allow for more air exchange. This improves the smell of the facility and prevents the spread of disease.

In addition to the new facility, Roe hopes to change some of the organization's policies. Roe said changing the adoption policy might curb the current overpopulation.

"We want to be sure that all of the animals are spayed or neutered before they leave us," Roe said. "It's one animal that we are not putting back into society to perpetuate our problem."

The Humane Society Board celebrated the opening of the facility with a gala on Feb. 28. The formal event featured a magician, food, drink and valet parking.

"It was a very special night for the board and contributors," Findley said. "It gave everyone a chance to look at the new building."

Roe said although the building is technically open, not all of the animals have been transported. She hopes to have all the animals moved by the end of the week.

"It's a fabulous place," Roe said. "I'd encourage people to come down and take a look. I think the new facility will encourage people to adopt."



PHOTO BY NIKI CARDER/CHIEF PHOTOGRAPHER

Construction of the New Nodaway Humane Society, located at 829 S. Depot St., began in June 2003. The new facility consists of three buildings: one for dogs, one for cats and one for administration.

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SELECTION
SUNDAY

On Sunday at the Hangar, Bearcat fans will be able to see if their teams will be playing in the NCAA Divisional II Basketball Tournaments.

The selection show will be televised on College Sports Television. It is available through DIRECTV on Channel 610.

The men were ranked No. 3 and the women were ranked No. 6 in last week's poll.

The dinner theatre will open at 9:15 p.m. and the show will start at 9:30 p.m.

SOFTBALL
WRAP-UPS

Northwest Women

at

Evangel Early Bird Tournament

What happened: The team won their first two games on Friday, but lost the third one. They dropped two more on Saturday as their record fell to 2-3.

The team beat Trinity Christian College 9-5 and Evangel 5-1.

They suffered defeats to Oklahoma City (15-5), Pittsburg State (9-6), and Bacone (9-4).

Up Next: The Bearcats now travel to St. Joseph to participate in the Missouri Western State College Invitational this Saturday and Sunday.

BASKETBALL
PREVIEWS

Northwest Men

vs.

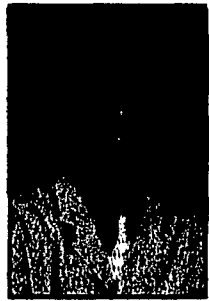
Missouri Southern

When: Friday, 8:30 p.m.

Where: Municipal Auditorium, Kansas City

Last time:

The Bearcats overcame a 13-point deficit to defeat the Lions in Joplin. The win also gave coach Steve Tappmeyer his 300th career victory. Five 'Cats scored in double-figures with Byron Jackson and Sky Wilson leading the way with 18 points each.



Jackson

Why does it matter? If the Bearcats lose they are not only out of the MIAA tournament but will have suffered their second straight loss. Though they have a bid in the South Central Regional pretty much wrapped up, it wouldn't hurt them to perform well.

Northwest Women

vs.

Central Missouri State

Where: Municipal Auditorium, Kansas City

When: Thursday, 8:30 p.m.

Last time:

The Bearcats dominated the Jennies in Warrensburg 77-52. Ashely Poptanycz led the team with 17 points and six rebounds. The win was the second time the Bearcats defeated the Jennies this season.



Poptanycz

Why does it matter? If the women go down in the first round to the Jennies they might be on the bubble when it comes to the South Central Regional. They need to approach every game with the must-win attitude to keep their chances alive.

SPOOFHOUND
SUMMARIES

Maryville Boys 65 vs. Tarkio Academy 8

Maryville faces off against South Harrison tonight in the Semifinals.

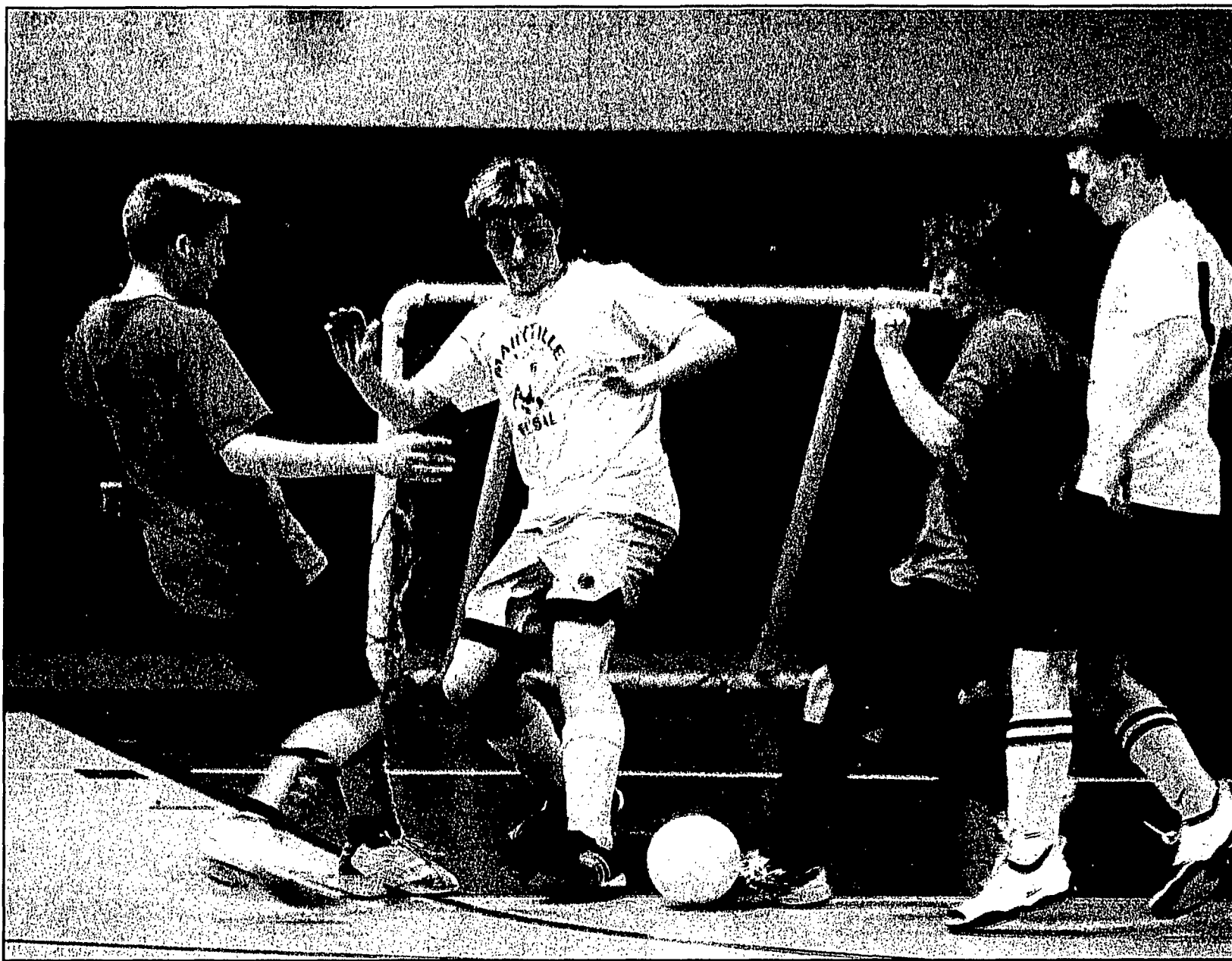


PHOTO BY COLEYOUNG/SPORTS EDITOR

Local high schoolers in the Maryville Futsal League go for a loose ball over the weekend. The program had over 50 players participating in its inaugural year.

FUTSAL FREAKS

Maryville high schoolers find way to improve soccer skills while playing international sport

By JEROME BOETTCHER
ASSISTANT SPORTS EDITOR

Soccer balls, basketball courts, PVC pipes and three hours of energetic athletes and fans.

What does that mean?

Maryville Futsal at the Maryville Community Center.

Futsal is played with five people on each team and on a basketball court. It is the only "official form of indoor soccer" according to the United States Futsal Federation.

Thanks to help from Maryville Parks and Recreation, the program was up and running since Jan. 18 and finished Sunday.

ished Sunday.

The program was headed up by the activities director at the community center, Shelly Hester. However, the main person who took control was Maryville High School junior Brian Donnelly.

"I wanted to play soccer in college and in Maryville you don't really have that much of an opportunity to improve your skills, especially in the winter," said Donnelly, who plans to attend West Point Military Academy after he graduates. "In the spring you have St. Joe league, that's only one day a week and really it's not going to get you to the place where you can be at the level of college soccer. So I really wanted to create a program where people get their skills, get the touches on the ball and improve it in that area."

Donnelly made a few changes to futsal. Instead of five players, they only play with four. And unlike normal play they do not use goalies. They play with a smaller ball and the goals, made of

PVC pipes are 6 feet wide by 2 feet high.

There are six teams and approximately 50 players in the co-ed league. They range from eighth graders to seniors in high school. The team names are derived from what color T-shirt they wear. Though many of the players play on the high school teams, the teams are randomly selected to be diverse.

"I would rather (play) on the team that hasn't worked together so much because it will help you out for high school soccer," said sophomore goalkeeper Ky Hill, a member of Team Yellow.

Maryville boys soccer head coach Stuart Collins said the program helps players continue to do well in the offseason.

"It all depends on what they get out of it," Collins said. "It ought to help them on working in a crowd. Ball control ought to be better as should their passes. Those are some elementary things that need to be taken care of. If it does those things it's very beneficial."

(Please see "Indoor" page 3B)



PHOTO BY COLEYOUNG/SPORTS EDITOR

Dustin Hengger dribbles the ball during Sunday's finale of the Maryville Futsal League, held at the Maryville Recreation Center.

'Hounds ambush
Generals

By ANTHONY STIENS
MISSOURIAN REPORTER

If anyone wondered how the Maryville Spoofhounds would play following their loss to Cameron, they quickly learned the answer.

From the opening tip-off, the 'Hounds dominated play as they scored the first 29 points of the game on their way to an easy 65-8 victory over the Tarkio Academy Generals in the first round of district play.

"Tonight we wanted to play a lot of kids, play well as team and have everyone play well," head coach Mike Kuwitzky said. "We all accomplished all of those goals."

Through stifling defense, the 'Hounds did not allow the Generals to get on the scoreboard until midway through the second quarter. Maryville would take a commanding 38-4 lead into the half.

Maryville held Tarkio Academy scoreless in the first and fourth quarters (Please see "Maryville" page 3B)

Squads
split during
Rolla trip

By COLE YOUNG
SPORTS EDITOR

The Northwest basketball teams traveled to Rolla last weekend to wrap up the MIAA's regular season.

Though the two teams returned to Maryville with mixed results, they both secured No. 3 seeds in this week's MIAA tournament.

In the women's game, the Bearcats jumped out to an early 18-6 lead thanks to eight quick points from senior guard Erica Hatterman.

Hatterman's day would just get better, finishing with a career high 25 points in the Bearcats 92-70 win.

Rolla was able to close the gap to nine points and trail only 40-31 at the half.

"Any time you play a 4-22 team, staying focused is going to be tough," head coach Gene Steinmeyer said. "We tried to motivate the players by (Please see "Squads" page 2B)

Bearcats claim third place finish at MIAA Indoor Track Meet

By ANDY TIMKO
MISSOURIAN REPORTER

The Northwest indoor track and field team may not have won an outright conference championship, but six individuals are looking forward to nationals.

Gabriel Helms, Dan McKim, Eric Isley, Stephanie Suntken, Alisha Samuel and Kailea Cook will be vying for national championships in Boston.

"We competed as a team pretty

well," head coach Richard Alsop said. "The team itself improved and battled all the way."

Missouri Southern won the men's championship by edging out Central Missouri State 112-111.

The 'Cats rounded out the top three by posting 101 points and narrowly beating out Pittsburg State who had 100 points.

The Bearcats jumped ahead of the pack during the championships but Missouri Southern was firing on all cylinders and soon took back the lead,

according to Alsop.

"We knew Missouri Southern was a team to reckon with," Alsop said. "We knew that we would have to get everything to fall into place. Do I think on a given day we could win the championship? Yes, but that didn't happen this year."

Although the 'Cats did not win a team championship, many individuals performed well.

Nine men placed in the top five in their event with E.J. Faulkner being the center point.

Faulkner placed in all four of the events that he competed in.

"I think we have some outstanding warriors in the group," Alsop said.

The much-anticipated 60-meter dash match-up between Helms and Pittsburg State's Jermaine Carpenter was decided by one-one hundredth of a second.

Helms finished second and is looking forward to nationals when he we run against Carpenter again.

"Every dog has its day," Helms said. "(I'll) forget about it. I have a

short memory when it comes to losses, I can't dwell on it."

The women's team battled hard through the championship and finished just outside of the top five in sixth place.

"I wasn't surprised at all," head coach Vicki Wootton said. "They have been working really hard to get to the conference meet and they just peaked at the right time."

Samuel and Suntken came home with individual championships in the (Please see "Track" page 2B)

Softball team hopes to build on last year's success after only losing one senior

By JEROME BOETTCHER
ASSISTANT SPORTS EDITOR

In Northwest softball coach Susan Anderson's mind, not one person alone will carry her team to success this season.

"I've got high expectations for everybody," Anderson said. "That's our big motto for this whole entire season. It's not about a certain individual, it's all about playing and performing as a team. My expectations are high for every single person on this team."

Keeping with that theme, the team is pretty much the same as last year.

They only lost one important offensive player in their centerfielder Kelly Carter, who graduated. The returning members of the team account for 84 percent of last year's total hits. Anderson is confident in her offense and thinks her defense should do just as well.

"Pretty much when you're inside for January and February that's a lot of what you work on just because you can't do a whole lot other than just hit in the cage and do defensive stuff," Anderson said.

The team's first outdoor experience was the week before the Evangel Early Bird Tournament in Springfield, Mo.,

"It was just nice to get outside," Anderson said. "I think the team and our coaching staff were getting a little cabin fever, so it was nice to get outside."

She also hopes that the lack of outdoor experience won't be a drawback.

"We're hoping it doesn't have an effect," Anderson said. "We need to come right out of the chute and be ready to play. Hopefully our girls are ready to get outside and hopefully they get it done."

Northwest will have four pitchers in the rotation this year. Juniors Jacqui Handlos and Shelly

MacDonald, transfer student Kelly Hainline (Dowling Community College) and freshman Talina Canon make up the rotation. This is a big jump from last year when the team only had two pitchers.

"It's going to be great knowing that they can go out and have their best game every single day and they've got someone to come in if it doesn't happen to be their day," Anderson said.

On the offensive side, not only is 84 percent of the hitting returning, but the top two career home run hitters at Northwest will also be in the (Please see "Softball" page 2B)

OPENING DAY LINEUP

P-Steve McDaniel
C-Megan Spring
1b-Alexis
2b-Tara Rissetter
3b-Tonja Rissetter
4b-Lindsay Stephenson

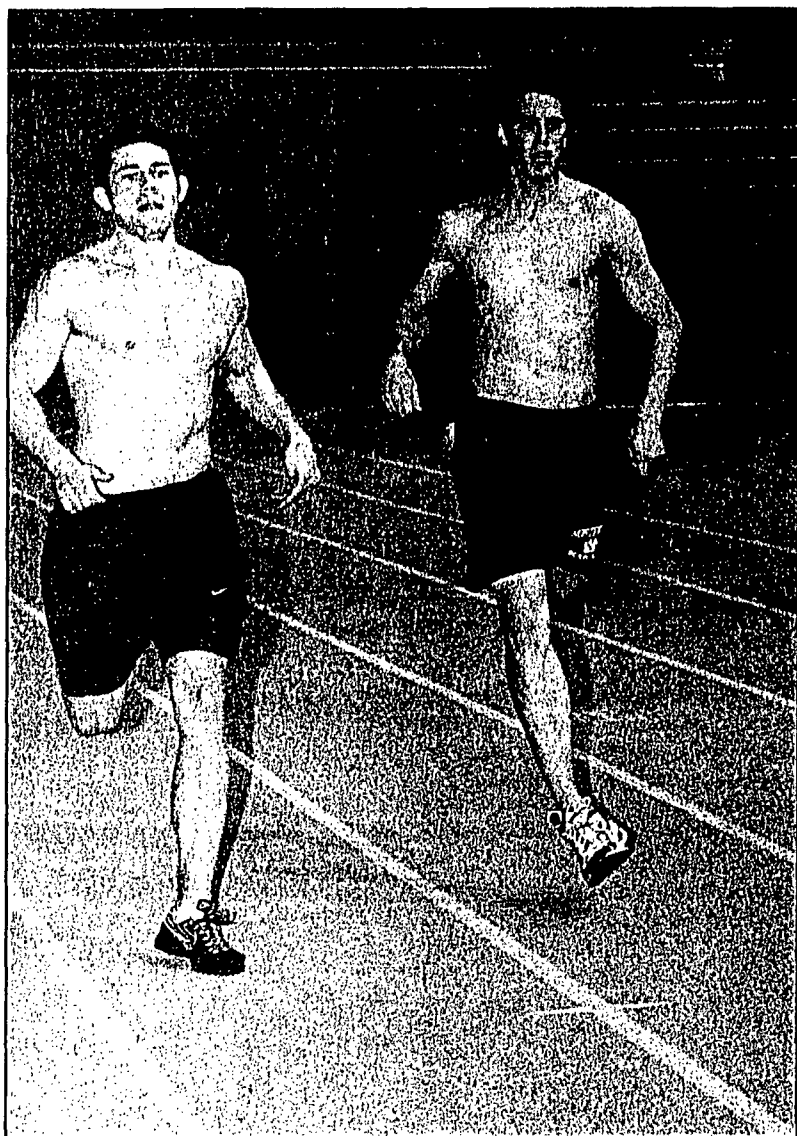


PHOTO BY LAURA CADY/CHIEF PHOTOGRAPHER

Jarod Smith and Patrick Sasser go through a practice on Monday. The duo's indoor season is complete, but they are currently preparing for the upcoming outdoor season.

CONTINUED from 1B

Indoor track team claims champions in two individual races, qualify for nationals

60- and 800-meter runs, respectively.

"My goal coming into conference was to run a good race," Suntken said. "I felt great the whole week, we tapered off on training, and I ran a good race."

Despite this being her first experience at nationals, Suntken has set lofty goals.

"This is a new thing for me, I've never gone to nationals before," Suntken said. "My first goal would be to make finals. There are about eight or nine of us in a small group and if you can win that little pack you'll be in good shape going into finals."

Wooton said the women will practice like they did before conference to stay in shape for nation-

als. "We're going to be going to a meet this weekend just kind of a tune up before nationals," she said. "I think they should run very well."

The men are going to take a couple days off before heading back into the gym to practice for nationals.

"You work on just perfecting their strengths," Alsop said. "You work on perfecting starts; you work on turnover; you work high jump and pole vault. You do things to sharpen up and make sure they have fresh legs for nationals."

The 'Cats will be leaving next week to head to Boston for the national competition March 13-14.

Morley, Badgers keep title hopes alive

By JON MCNAMARA
THE DAILY CARDINAL (U. WISCONSIN)

(U-Wire) MADISON, Wis. - In a picture-perfect atmosphere Tuesday night, No. 25 Michigan State (17-10 overall, 12-4 Big Ten) had an opportunity to clinch at least a share of the Big Ten title on Senior Night with the company of their home fans.

Instead, the championship banner remained in the rafters of the "Izzone" as No. 14 Wisconsin (20-6, 11-4) kept its own aspirations alive for a conference title as the Badgers discovered a cure for their road woes with a dramatic 68-64 overtime victory in East Lansing, Mich.

MSU coach Tom Izzo's game plan was no secret, as four of the first six scripted plays were run into his 6-foot-11 sopho-

more center Paul Davis. Davis responded by scoring his team's first nine points. As Wisconsin focused on stopping State's trio of sharpshooters from catching fire early, Davis was able to have a monster first half, scoring 15 points and grabbing nine boards.

The Badgers, however, were unable to work the ball into the post and went on a 10-minute drought without a field goal and saw the momentum and energy suddenly shift in favor of the home team. With the pressure mounting, Wisconsin turned to its leader, Harris, who calmly hit a clutch 3 from the top of the key to tie the score at 53-53 with under a minute to play.

On the ensuing Michigan State possession, junior guard Chris Hill was fouled with 22 seconds remaining, but missed both free throws in an eerily silent arena.

CONTINUED from 1B

Bearcats end regular season play with different results; Kansas City up next

reminding them we still had a chance at the conference title."

In the second half, Northwest ran their lead to as many as 29 points thanks to a 24-5 run to start the second half.

Behind Hatterman's 25 points, Laura Friederich scored 15 points followed by Ashely Poptanycz with 10 points.

Poptanycz also lead the Bearcats with eight rebounds.

For the game, Northwest shot 53 percent from the field, while holding Rolla to 19 percent from the field.

The men did not have as much luck on their trip to Rolla last weekend.

The Bearcats, needing a win to seal up the No. 2 position in the MIAA tournament, ran into roadblock Kerry Darting.

Darting scorched the Bearcats from the outside, hitting eight three-pointers to finish with a game high 28 points on their way to a 82-73 win.

"Our biggest problem right now is that we don't play a complete game on both ends," guard Kelvin Parker said. "If we can play at both ends, we will be alright."

Northwest fell behind from the outset, trailing by as many as 19 in the first half before going on a 15-3 run to trail only 36-29 at the half.

Darting caught fire to start the second half, however, scoring eight straight points to extend the lead to 13 points.

Rolla stayed hot, extending the lead to 22 points before Northwest began making a run. The Bearcats got the game to within six points but were unable to finish the deal.

Parker and Byron Jackson led the way for Northwest with 14 points apiece. Keanan Weir tossed in 12 for the Bearcats.

Jackson also had 10 rebounds. Both teams are back in action today and Friday in the MIAA tournament.

CONTINUED from 1B

Softball squad looks to build off last season's successes

lineup. Seniors Angie McCoy and Megan Spring have 33 home runs between them. McCoy leads with 17 and Spring is right behind with 16.

Anderson has many goals for the team, and winning conference for the first time in Northwest's history is one of them. She hopes that her players' mix of experience at the collegiate level will help the team in achieving that goal.

"We've got a lot of upperclassmen that have been around the MIAA; they understand what it takes to win this conference, they understand what it takes to be in the top part of the region," Anderson said. "I'm hoping that the new people we brought in are seeing the competitive spirit that our upperclassmen bring. Once we start playing more games, they'll really get an idea of what it's like to be a college athlete."

Northwest loses second coach in under a week

By COLE YOUNG
SPORTS EDITOR

It's practically a domino effect for the Northwest football coaching staff.

Less than one week after former offensive coordinator Jim Svoboda left for a job at UCLA as quarterbacks coach, former defensive line/strength and conditioning coach Jon Gustafson has left the squad as well.

While Gustafson will remain in the area, he is taking on a new job which will require him to relinquish his duties as assistant football coach.

Gustafson will take over the new position of Director of HPERD/MOERA Operations within the Health, Physical Education, Recreation and Dance department at Northwest. MOERA is the Mzingo Outdoor Education and Recreation Area at Mzingo Lake.

In his 11 years as a coach at Northwest he has helped to physically develop the squads.

"Gus has had such an integral role in the development of all our players," head football coach Mel Tjeerdsma said. "When we got here, we just trusted him to set up his program and do what needed to be done. When you look at the physical development of our teams compared to the teams we are playing, we match up very well. That is a tribute to him."

During the former coach's tenure, he coached such linemen such Matt Uhde, Aaron Becker, Justin Bowser and Alan Buckwalter.

A position that will allow Gustafson to work outdoors is something that Tjeerdsma knows he will enjoy.

"I'm really happy for Gus," Tjeerdsma said. "This is a great opportunity for him. To have the opportunity to be the director of that area out there and develop it is very exciting for him."

Baseball squad wins 3-of-4 in Georgia tourney

By JEROME BOETTCHER
ASSISTANT SPORTS EDITOR

A day after the No. 20 Bearcats upset the No. 2 team in the nation, they suffered their second loss of the season.

The 'Cats fell to No. 14 Georgia State 5-0 Tuesday afternoon in Savannah, Ga.

Starting pitcher Jeremy Tapps gave up four runs and seven hits in three innings. Georgia State outbit the Bearcats 14-1. Junior Drew Mattile provided Northwest with the team's only hit. It came in the first inning, but went to waste as the team left two runners on base.

The day before, Northwest managed to upset No. 2 Armstrong Atlantic. Northwest barely held on to a 3-0 lead to defeat the Pirates 3-2.

Freshman Ryley Westman knocked in all three of Northwest's runs in the second inning. The bases were loaded with one out when Westman stepped up to the plate and delivered a three-run double to give Northwest the lead. The Bearcats went into the

eighth inning leading 3-0. Starting pitcher David Dugan, who pitched seven innings and only gave up four hits and two runs, let two Pirates get on quickly in the eighth. Relief Pitcher Matt Coons came in and, after loading the bases up with no outs, he ended the inning only allowing two runs thanks to an earlier double play.

Coons then retired the first three batters in the bottom of the ninth inning and sealed the victory for Dugan and the 'Cats. Dugan is now 2-0 on the season, while Coons picked up his fourth save of the season.

On Sunday Northwest started the Armstrong Atlantic Invitational by sweeping a doubleheader against Queens College. They won the first game 14-0 and the second 5-1. Alex Budden and Justin Hildebrand each picked up their first wins of the season, Hildebrand's first career win. The team now has a record of 8-2.

The 'Cats face Armstrong Atlantic Thursday at 2 p.m. They wrap up their stay in Georgia Friday against Dowling at 10 a.m.

Sunday:

Game box score

Northwest 14, Queens 0

Northwest 14

Player	AB	R	H	RBI	BB	SO	PO	A	LOB
West cf	4	0	0	0	0	1	3	0	1
Evans 2b	4	0	0	0	1	2	3	1	0
Mettile lf	3	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0
Galagher dh	2	1	2	0	0	0	0	0	1
Donovan rf	1	1	0	0	0	2	6	0	0
Schwarz 3b	4	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	2
Dugan lb	3	1	0	0	1	2	1	0	0
Westman c	3	0	1	3	0	0	8	0	1
Dodd ss	4	0	0	0	0	2	4	1	0
Budden p	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	0	0

Queens 0

Player	AB	R	H	RBI	BB	SO	PO	A	LOB
Regina dh	3	0	0	0	0	2	0	0	1
Ozner lf	3	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	0
Panta 2b	3	0	1	0	0	2	4	0	0
Garlick lb	3	0	1	0	0	1	7	0	1
Rivara 3b	3	0	0	0	0	0	2	1	0
Medes cf	3	0	1	0	0	2	0	0	0
Miller rf	3	0	0	0	1	1	1	1	0
Yantos c	2	0	0	0	0	2	0	0	0
Paras ss	2	0	1	0	0	1	3	5	1
Fitzgibbon p	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

Queens 0 00 000 0 0 4 3
Northwest (10) 22 00 X 14 15 0

Sunday:

Game box score

Northwest 4, Queens 1

Northwest 4

Player	AB	R	H	RBI	BB	SO	PO	A	LOB
West cf	2	0	0	0	1	0	4	0	0
Dodd ss	2	1	0	0	1	0	2	4	0
Mettile lf	2	0	1	1	1	0	0	0	0
Donovan rf	3	1	1	1	0	2	1	2	0
Schwarz 3b	4	0	0	0	2	0	0	0	0
White 2b	4	1	2	1	0	1	1	3	0
Dugan lb	3	0	0	0	0	4	0	0	0
Babb c	2	0	0	0	1	0	6	0	1
French 2b	2	0	0	0	0	0	2	1	2
Evans ph	1	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0
Hildebrand p	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

Queens 1

Player	AB	R	H	RBI	BB	SO	PO	A	LOB
Regina 2b	3	0	2	0	0	0	4	2	0
Ozner lf	3	0	1	0	0	0	1	0	1
Panta dh	3	0	0	0	0	2	0	0	0
Garlick lb	2	0	1	0	1	1	4	1	0
Medes cf	3	0	0	0	0	1	4	0	1
Miller rf	3	1	0	0	0	3	0	0	0
Sporten 3b	3	0	0	0	0	1	0	2	1
Maratone c	3	0	0	0	1	4	0	0	0
Diaz ss	1	0	1	0	0	1	1	0	0
Weinor p	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

Queens 000 010 0 1 4 1
Northwest 000 003 1 4 5 2

Monday

Game box score

Northwest 3, Armstrong Atlantic 2

Northwest 3

Player	AB	R	H	RBI	BB	SO	PO	A	LOB
West cf	4	0	0	0	0	1	3	0	1
Evans 2b	3	0	0	0	1	2	3	1	0
Mettile lf	4	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0
Galagher dh	4	1	2	0	0	0	0	0	1
Donovan rf	4	1	2	0	0	2	6	0	0
White 3b	3	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	2
Coons lb	3	1	0	0	1	2	0	0	0
Westman c	4	0	1	3	0	0	8	0	1
Dodd ss	3	0	0	0	0	1	2	4	0
Dugan p	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	0	0

Armstrong Atlantic 2

Player	AB	R	H	RBI	BB	SO	PO	A	LOB
Nunez rf	3	0	1	0	0	1	1	0	0
Reardon 2b	4	0	0	1	0	1	3	2	0
A. Pelley ss	4	0	2	0	0	0	0	7	2
M. Pelley lb	3	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	2
Fletcher dh	4	0	0	0	0	0	12	0	2
McKinnon lf	4	0	0	0	0	2	0	0	0
Thomas 3b	3	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0
Klinney ph	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Hosack c	4	1	2	0	0	0	9	0	0
Dice cf	2	0	0	0	0	2	2	0	0
Hildebrand p	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Simmons pr	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Boyd p	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0
Tallent p	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

Northwest 030 000 000 3 5 3
Armstrong 000 000 020 2 5 1

Tuesday:

Game box score

Georgia State 5, Northwest 0

Northwest 0

Player	AB	R	H	RBI	BB	SO	PO	A	LOB
West cf	4	0	0	0	0	4	1	0	0
Evans 2b	4	0	0	0	1	5	1	0	0
Mettile lf	4	0	1	0	0	3	0	0	0
Donovan rf	3	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0
Schwarz dh	3	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	2
White 3b	3	0	0	0	0	0	4	1	0
Dugan lb	3	0	0	0	0	0	9	1	0
Westman c	3	0	0	0	0	1	2	0	0
Dodd ss	3	0	0	0	0	0	4	2	0
Tapps p	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

Georgia State 5

Player	AB	R	H	RBI	BB	SO	PO	A	LOB
Benson 2b	3	0	1	0	0	0	2	2	0
Mills cf	3	0	1	0	0	0	2	0	1
Ping ph	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2
Habel lf	5	0	0	0	0	0	10	1	2
Caruso c	4	1	4	0	0	0	3	0	0
Waldrup c	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Leger dh	4	1	3	0	0	0	0	3	0
Serafin 3b	4	1	1	1	0	0	0	0	4
Shuster lb	1	1	1	0	0	0	4	0	0
Sorrells ph	3	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	1
Deveau ss	4	0	1	0	0	1	1	7	0
Latham rf	3	1	2	1	0	0	2	0	0
Spell p	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0

Georgia St. 040 100 000 5 14 2
Northwest 000 000 000 0 1 2

Northwest Ford-Lincoln Mercury's

Spotlight Player

Eric Hatterman
scored 25 points for
the Bearcats
Saturday as they
blew past Missouri-
Rolla in their
season finale.





PHOTO BY COLEYOUNG/SPORTS EDITOR
Dustin Henggler, Bryan Donnelly and Heath Peregrine battle for a ball during last weekend's futsal league. Donnelly is one of the founders of the Maryville Futsal League.

CONTINUED From 1B

Indoor soccer kicks into Maryville

The crowd turnout has grown during the season according to the players.

"People started telling more and more people about it and a lot more people decided to come up and watch," junior Dylan Cloepfil said.

Not only are the Maryville High School boys' and girls' soccer teams involved strongly in the success of the program, but Northwest women's soccer coach Tracy Cross and some of her players help officiate the games.

"We've loved soccer all our lives, so it's kind of fun to see all the other people who enjoy it," Northwest sophomore goalkeeper Sheena Claxton said. "It kind of shows our support for them so maybe they will come out and

support us."

Not only did they officiate the games, the Northwest soccer team also ran a soccer clinic at the community center a few weeks ago.

On Sunday the league held a tournament. All six teams competed and Team Yellow won the tournament.

Donnelly believes that the league wouldn't exist if it weren't for the help of others.

"If I didn't have people following through, we wouldn't have got it done," Donnelly said.

Those that were involved in the program feel the first season proved successful.

"It's a step in the right direction, it's something to build off," Herst said.

CONTINUED From 1B

Maryville boys ambush Academy in district opener, South Harrison next

allowing the 'Hounds bench to play a majority of the ballgame.

"We did a good job keeping our focus the whole game and doing good fundamentals," said senior Nate Morley who chipped in with five points on the night.

Ten 'Hounds players scored at least four points, led by junior Josh Wilmes' 11 points, the only player to reach double figures.

The 'Hounds played without senior sixth man Robbie Lade. According to Kuwitzky, Lade sat out for precautionary reasons due to a sore shoulder, but Kutwitzky plans to have him back in the lineup against South Harrison.

With the win, the No. 1 seeded 'Hounds, 20-6, move on to face No. 5 seed South Harrison, who defeated No. 4 seed St. Joseph LeBlond. Earlier in the year the 'Hounds soundly defeated South Harrison in Maryville 64-39, despite only having a six-point lead going into halftime.

According to Kuwitzky, the 'Hounds expect to see an improved South Harrison team from the last time the two squads faced off, something the coach has to worry about.

"South Harrison has some quick athletes on the perimeter, but their big guys inside are their strength and inside is where they like to go to," he said.

Game time against South Harrison is slated for tonight at 6 p.m. at Plattsburg High School, with the winner advancing to the finals on Saturday at 7 p.m.

Anthony Stiens can be contacted at 562-1224 or astiens@missourianonline.com

Bush should stick to more important things, stay out of Major League Baseball's way

I'm sure President Bush means well when he talks about how he wants to get drug use out of professional sports, especially Major League Baseball.

The thing is, it doesn't really matter if he cares or not.

For some reason the president of our fine nation has busied himself with trying to solve the problem of steroid use among athletes instead of worrying about more important things, like oh, say, terrorism.

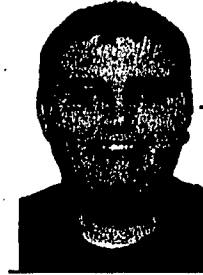
During Bush's State of the Union address, he called on all professional leagues to adopt tougher policies on steroid use. In addition to having more important things to worry about, is this really any of his business? Last time I checked Major League Baseball isn't run by the government, although Bud Selig could be a dictator in his own right.

While Barry Bonds could very well be on steroids, that's about as much Bush's business as it is if I'm on the juice.

In my opinion, it seems like he has realized that he needs to do something in order to connect with sports fans in order to get re-

Out of Bounds

COLEYOUNG
SPORTS
EDITOR



elected.

Now I'm totally for banning steroids in sports, I just don't think the Commander in Chief of the U.S. armed forces needs to lose any sleep over this.

In addition, where has the government been when Major League Baseball has its work stoppages in the last 10 years?

But I digress. It seems to me that if nothing else, steroid use has almost been good for baseball.

Coming out of the strike, baseball needed something to give it some life. So the game decided to juice up the baseballs so there would be more homeruns. According to

Bush's way of thinking, the MLB players decided to take steroids so they could put on a show for the fans too.

While the naysayers can say that judging by the Roger Maris' 61 home run record being broken twice in the last 10 years, that something is definitely up with the way players are taking care of themselves.

To them I ask, how many times has the 100-meter world record been broken since Roger Maris broke the home run record?

When Maris set his record in 1961, the world record in the 100-meter dash was still slower than 10 seconds.

While the record is now 9.72 seconds, three tenths of second in the 100 is the equivalent to Bonds hitting 30 more home runs than Maris.

Seems to me like Bush should worry about athletes having better technology for training than worrying about what they are putting in their bodies.

Then again, why is he worrying anyway?

Cole Young can be contacted at 562-1224 or cyoung@missourianonline.com

FAN PLAN

	TODAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY
Northwest men's basketball	CMSU 8:30 p.m.		Semifinals TBA	Championship 3:30 p.m.			
Northwest women's basketball		MSSU 8:30 p.m.	Semifinals TBA	Championship 1:30 p.m.			
Northwest baseball	Armstrong Atlantic 2 p.m.	Dowling 10 a.m.					Grandview 5 p.m.
Northwest softball			Missouri Western Tournament	Missouri Western Tournament			UNO 3 p.m.
Maryville boys' basketball	District Semifinals 6 p.m.		District Finals 7 p.m.				
Maryville girls' basketball		District Finals 7 p.m.					

■ GAME TO WATCH: The MIAA tournament gets under way in Kansas City at the Municipal Auditorium on Thursday. Both teams have a good shot at winning it all. The Emporia State women is the team to look out for on the women's side, whereas the Ichabods of Washburn are clearly the favorites for the men.

Pick up your copy today at Wal-Mart, either Pit Stop location or by ordering at northwestbearcats.com

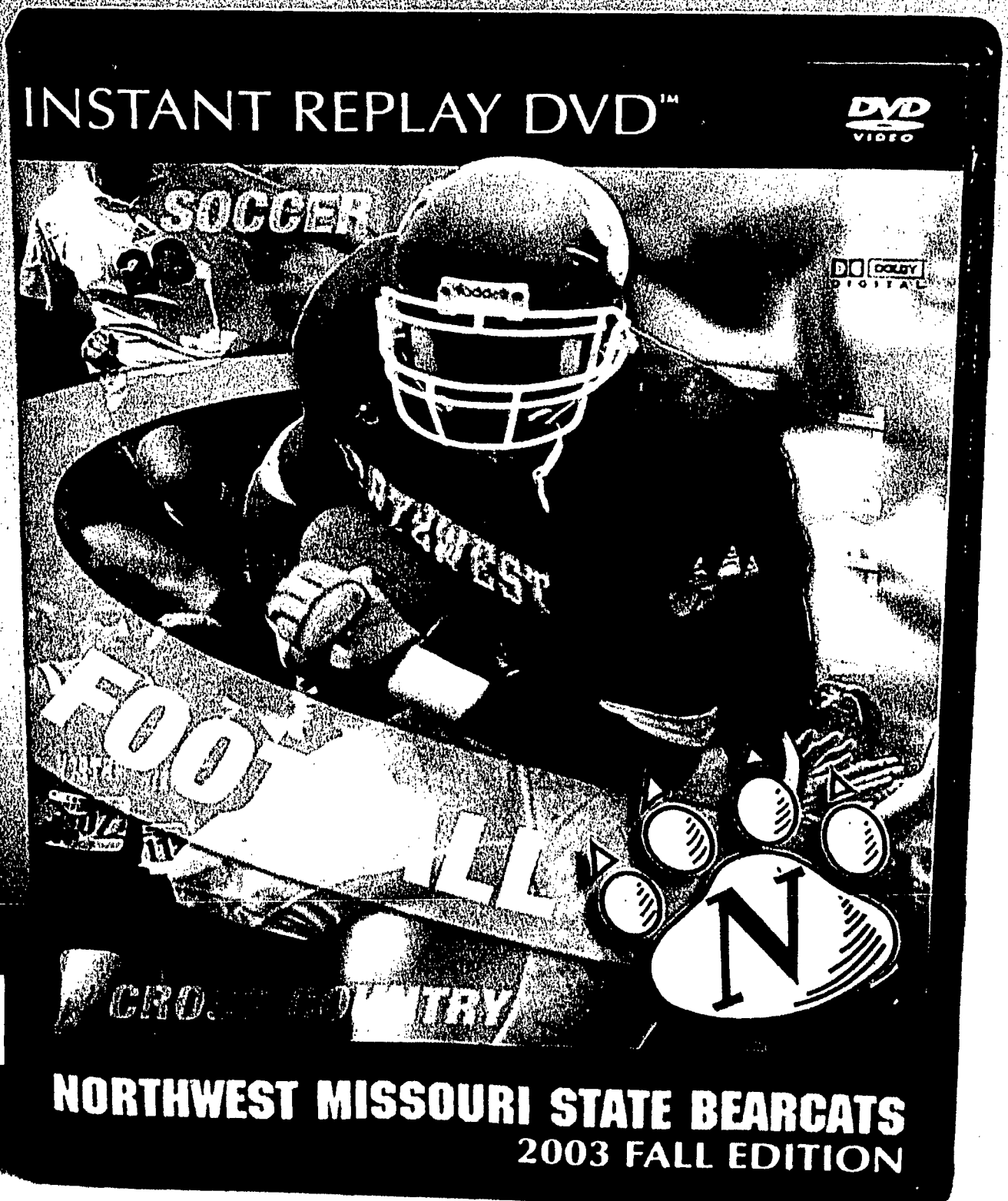
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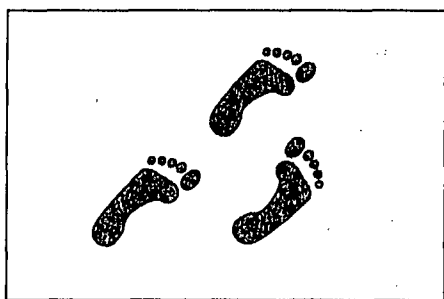
NORTHWEST
MISSOURI STATE UNIVERSITY

Your Man demands more courtesy

It's 7:15 on a Tuesday morning and my eyes are barely open as I grope around my dim room for my jeans and t-shirt. Suddenly, I hear and feel a floor rumbling *thump...thump-thump*. I groan, and my roommate, who's even less of a morning person than I am, mutters, "I can't believe they're already blaring that awful music."

We all know that noise travels easily when you're living in the dorms (oh wait: *residence halls*—let's not be politically incorrect now). If you dribble a basketball on the second floor, someone on the first floor is going to hear it. Everyone pretty much knows what his or her neighbors are doing at any given moment. So why can't we at least respect each other enough to not force each other to listen to music they may not want to hear?

Unfortunately, common courtesy is not so common these days. And it's not just in the dorm—er—residence halls. Hardly anyone says "please" and "thank you" to the Campus Dining staff. Students talk to each other or do work from other classes in the middle of professors' lectures. Or worse, there have been occasions when a student will get up and walk right out the door in the middle of class.



THE STROLLER

When a distinguished lecturer comes to Northwest half the crowd leaves during the question and answer session. Just look at the crowd when Dave Attell came to campus earlier this semester. How many students showed up already inebriated? Is that any way to encourage other big names to come to Maryville? Think about it. Coming to this town is going out of their way as it is.

I will concede, however, that Northwest students are great about holding doors open for each other. We hold doors open all over the place: the Union, Colden Hall, Garrett-Strong and yes, even at the residence halls. If nothing else, at least we will all walk out of here as expert door holders. Perhaps we can

offer a bachelor's degree in professional doormanhood.

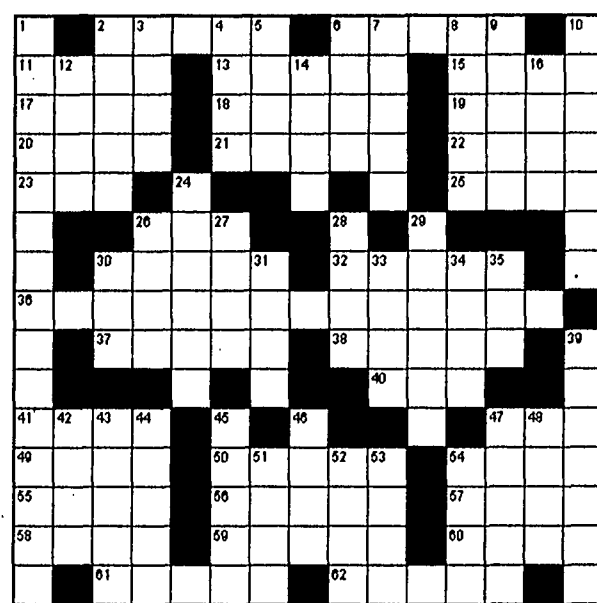
Seriously though, it's no wonder the rest of society looks down on our age group. We have the patience of a Chihuahua on a caffeine high. When we want or do something, we don't think about the people around us. We are so worried about impressing our peers and looking "cool" that we don't stop to consider anyone else's thoughts and feelings. We call it being "rebellious." What a joke. The real rebels these days are the select few who actually show respect for our guests and use the magic words. And kudos to those of you who do.

I wonder how my neighbors would react if I decided to blare a Mozart CD at seven in the morning? Not only would they make me turn it off, I might even be dubbed a nerd and get lynched, which is why I would never do it. Besides, it wouldn't be very *courteous* of me to do so.

Come on, folks, let's make courtesy common again.

The Stroller has been a tradition since 1918 and does not reflect the views of The Northwest Missourian.

WEEKLY CROSSWORD



Across
1. Doctrines
5. Treads
10. Ancient Roman days
14. English court
15. Mature
16. Female name
17. Badly
18. Anorak
19. Forbidden
20. Simple life form
22. Climbed
23. Nova Scotia cape
24. Portuguese territory in S China
28. Colorful form of the common carp
30. Famous

Down
1. Of the flank
2. Alabama city
3. Watery fruit
4. Eye infections
5. Father
6. American Dental Association
7. Netherlands Antilles island

Across
8. Large northern deer
9. Pile
10. International
11. No longer living
12. German river
13. Muddiest
21. Assault vigorously
25. Inexpensive
26. Opposite one of two
27. Assume
28. Furnace
29. Carmaker
30. Fourteenth century pope
31. Like an eel
32. Priest
33. Supplement
36. Needlefish
41. Irrigated
45. Power units
46. Pertaining to the voice
48. Common person of ancient Rome
49. Angry
50. Silly
51. Makes a loan
53. Female sheep
54. Prefix for small
55. Chief magistrate
56. Unit of computer memory
59. News reporting system

on the edge
Marriage facts:
■ Although most weddings now take place on a Saturday, it was considered unlucky in the past. Fridays were also considered unlucky for marriage ceremonies, particularly Friday the 13th.
■ In Pennsylvania, ministers are forbidden from performing marriages when either the bride or groom is drunk.
■ There is little divorce in Korea. A divorced Korean woman has tremendous difficulties finding a job, has few rights over her children and is socially scarred. In this male-oriented society, many Korean women will endure bad marriages rather than be subjected to the consequences.
■ A couple living together for two years in Russia is considered married. This is called a citizen marriage.

See answers below
Uselessknowledge.com

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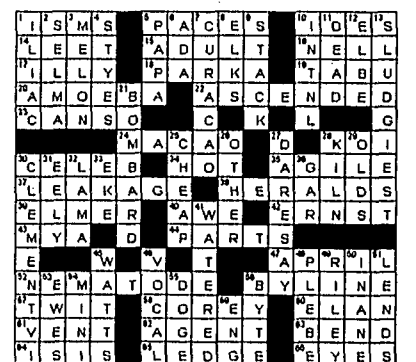
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MIAA TOURNAMENT PREVIEW

THURSDAY, MARCH 4, 2004

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What's inside:

**Coach Tappmeyer's
Biggest Victories p.2**

Inside the MIAA p.3

Mr. MIAA p.4

Tapp's True Triumphs

Possible MIAA tournament success pales in comparison to the success men's head basketball coach Steve Tappmeyer has had with his past and present players on and off the court.

TAPP'S TOPS

**MOST POINTS
IN A GAME
122**

-Against Graceland in 1999. The most points the Bearcats ever gave up during Tappmeyer's era was 131 against the University of Central Oklahoma during the 1992-93 season.

**MOST WINS IN
A SEASON
29**

-Tapp and his troops earned 29 victories during the 2001-02 season. The team advanced to the NCAA Division II Elite Eight, where they lost. With two wins, this year's squad could move into the No. 2 spot on the list with 25 wins.

**MOST SEASONS
AT NORTHWEST
16**

-Tapp's 16 seasons at Northwest is the longest tenure of any coach for the Bearcats. Thirteen of those years have been winning seasons.

Lifetime Success: Tappmeyer teaches more than game

Through 16 straight seasons, Coach Tapp has taught skills for basketball and life

By COLE YOUNG
SPORTS EDITOR

For men's head basketball coach Steve Tappmeyer, his 300th win was clearly an accomplishment as a coach.

What overshadows those wins, however, is the players who have had a part in the 300 wins.

While many college basketball programs seem to carry negative connotations with them for their players' actions off the court, none of that seems to have made it to Maryville.

"It is more the guys we bring in than what I've done," Tappmeyer said. "Our assistant coaches do a good job of bringing in guys who want to get college degrees."

The clean program Tappmeyer has run seems to recruit for itself, bringing players to the school who want to play for such a program.

Recruiting for itself helped lure

MIAA MVP Kelvin Parker.

"You never hear anything bad about Northwest," Parker said. "That was a big deal when it came to deciding where to play at."

The skills Tappmeyer has taught his players to help reach 300 wins has also helped the players gain numerous victories in life.

Former players have become police officers and lawyers, in addition to a long list of basketball coaches.

"He was all about mental toughness and hard work," Maryville Attorney Bob Sundell said. "That helped us during the season, but it also helped us many, many years down the road."

Another former player, Marc Baltimore, is now a police officer and helped with the cleanup after the Sept. 11 terrorism attacks.

Tappmeyer remembers the change in Baltimore from the time he arrived at Northwest until he graduated.

"He was one of the guys who, by getting in the program, got a lot of discipline," Tappmeyer said. "He has went on to get his degree and lead a successful life."

For the coach, seeing players who were maybe not the most ma-



Head Coach Steve Tappmeyer pleads his case to an official during a game earlier this season. Tappmeyer, who picked up his 300th win against Missouri Southern, is known throughout the MIAA for his facial expressions in reaction to calls.

ture when they arrived to Northwest and changed before graduating, is who he feels the best about.

"I like to see guys who you can say, 'Without basketball, these guys would not have probably stuck out college and graduated,'" Tappmeyer said. "There are those guys who have gotten better study habits and get degrees and develop skills that will help them out in life."

Sundell says a lot of the success comes from the type of players Tappmeyer brings in.

When recruiting, Tappmeyer looks for players that have stayed out of trouble in high school.

"(Coach Tappmeyer) asked my high school coach a lot of questions about how I was in high school," junior forward Jesse Shaw said. "He wanted to know how I did in school, how I listened to being

coached and about staying out of trouble."

The clean program is something that Sundell says the community notices.

"Tapp isn't going to bring in people he knows are going to be problems," Sundell said. "Some places in the conference bring in some renegade-type players, but Tapp doesn't do that. That just wouldn't work in Maryville."

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1. Washburn Ichabods

24-3 (15-3)

First Round opponent- University of Missouri-Rolla
When- Friday, noon

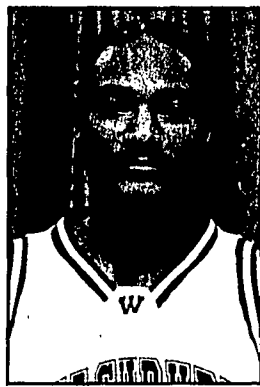
Leading Scorer- Travis Robbins 13.3 ppg

Leading Rebounder- Travis Robbins 6.5 ppg

Leading Assists- Jeremy Cunningham 3.5 assists

Who to watch out for- When Travis Robbins comes off the bench he is a threat to opposing teams. Though he fouls a lot, he has never fouled out of a game. If you can stop him, then you can possibly stop the Ichabods.

Why they can win the tournament- Washburn is the odds on favorite to win if you go by records. However, they lost their final two games of the season. Their last regular season loss came to Central Missouri State and they might see them for a third time this season if they make it to the second round. If Washburn can get the outside going they might have this thing all wrapped up. But other teams know they are vulnerable and will be looking to pull off the upset.



Travis Robbins

1. Emporia State Lady Hornets

22-3 (15-3)

First Round opponent- Southwest Baptist University

When- Thursday, noon

Leading Scorer- Mikalannet Tennal 13.6 ppg

Leading Rebounder- Esmay Vargas-Sanchez 8 rpg

Leading Assists- Michelle Brown 6.89 apg

Who to watch out for- Esmay Vargas-Sanchez has seen not seen the playing time she did last year, but that hasn't stopped her for dominating the glass in the MIAA. She could be an unstoppable if she decides to be this weekend.

Why they can win the tournament- They have arguably the most talent in the MIAA. Not only are they a force in the tournament, they could make some noise during the regional tournament and into the Elite Eight.



Mikalannet Tennal

2. Emporia State Hornets

22-5 (14-4)

First Round opponent- Missouri Western State College

When- Friday, 6 p.m.

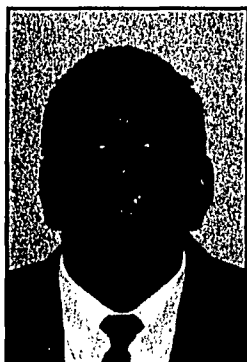
Leading Scorer- Tony Travis 14.9 ppg

Leading Rebounder- Demond Perris 6.6 rpg

Leading Assists- Travis 4.91 apg

Who to watch out for- Senior Thomas Vincent is hot right now. He scored 52 points (a school record) in the Hornets' season finale against Southwest Baptist and had 16 three-pointers (ties Division II record). In his last two games he has totaled 75 points.

Why they can win the tournament- Emporia is on a five-game winning streak and a big win over Washburn at home a week ago. If Vincent and Travis get going, the Hornets could be hard to stop. If the Hornets get to face Washburn in the championship they could have the edge. The last time the two met, Washburn's leading scorer Travis Robbins only scored seven points and had four fouls.



Thomas Vincent

2. Washburn Lady Blues

24-3 (15-3)

First Round opponent- Pittsburg State University

When- Thursday, 6 p.m.

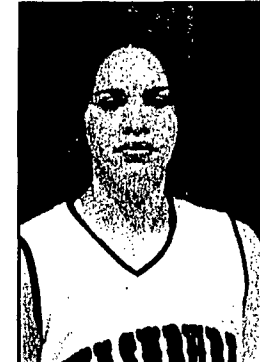
Leading Scorer- Carla Sintra 11 ppg

Leading Rebounder- Sintra 5.8 ppg

Leading Assists- April Roadhouse 3.48 apg

Who to watch out for- Lora Westling may not be leading any of the teams' three big statistical categories, but would be a go-to player on any of the other teams in the league.

Why they can win the tournament- Washburn has just been hanging around all year. After starting off slow, they worked their way into a tie for the MIAA regular season title and have been playing their best basketball as of late.



Carla Sintra

4. Central Missouri State Mules

18-9 (10-8)

First Round opponent- Pittsburg State University

When- Friday, 2:30 p.m.

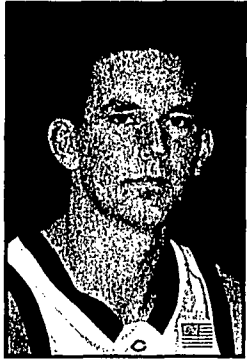
Leading Scorer- Derek Weber 13.7 ppg

Leading Rebounder- Pat Schumacher 7.3 rpg

Leading Assists- Jeremy McFall 4.92 apg

Who to watch out for- Though big man Pat Schumacher hasn't been the same since his injury early on in the season, once he gets going he is unstoppable. Along with that Derek Weber has become a threat as he has scored 63 points in his last three games.

Why they can win the tournament- The Mules shouldn't be overlooked. If they get past the Pittsburg State, they could give Washburn a run for their money. They have won three in a row and they are coming off a big win over Washburn. That might just be the confidence they need to win it all.



Pat Schumacher

4. Missouri Western Griffons

20-7 (12-6)

First Round opponent- Missouri Southern State University

When- Thursday, 2:30 p.m.

Leading Scorer- Danielle McKinley 16.3 ppg

Leading Rebounder- Carly Lee 5.3 rpg

Leading Assists- Eldra Paixao 5.58 apg

Who to watch out for- Danielle McKinley is a name Bearcat fans will remember from their game with Western just over a week ago. McKinley scored 19 points for Western in their overtime loss.

Why they can win the tournament- Western is a young team with lots of newcomers, if they all gel during the conference tournament, there is no reason they can't be playing on Sunday.



Danielle McKinley

5. Pittsburg State Gorillas

17-10 (9-9)

First Round opponent- Central Missouri State University

When- Friday, 2:30 p.m.

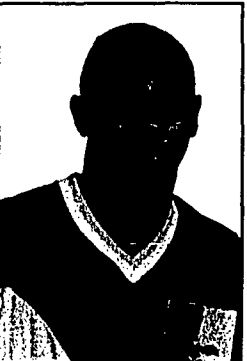
Leading Scorer- Eddie Jackson 17.2 ppg

Leading Rebounder- Jamey Richardson 9.9 rpg

Leading Assists- Jason Taylor 4 apg

Who to watch out for- Eddie Jackson has been on fire lately. He scored 39 points in the final game of the season for the Gorillas.

Why they can win the tournament- The Gorillas' record might not show it but they have played good teams very close. They have beaten every team in the conference, except Emporia, at least once. Both times they played CMSU they played them close, winning by five and losing by seven. If Eddie Jackson and Jamey Richardson get hot, the Gorillas could turn a lot of heads.



Eddie Jackson

5. Missouri Southern Lions

19-8 (10-8)

First Round opponent- Missouri Western State College

When- Thursday, 2:30 p.m.

Leading Scorer- Aubrie Hallman 15.6 ppg

Leading Rebounder- Wyketha Harrell 6.1 rpg

Leading Assists- Carol Koenig 5.56 apg

Who to watch out for- Aubrie Hallman could be playing some of the best basketball in the conference right now. If she catches fire, it could make for a long game for Southern's opponents.

Why they can win the tournament- The Lions have already knocked off the No. 1 and No. 3 teams in the tournament this season. The Lions are arguably the hottest of any team in the region right now, let alone the MIAA.



Aubrie Hallman

6. Missouri Southern Lions

14-13 (7-11)

First Round opponent- Northwest Missouri State University

When- Friday, 8:30 p.m.

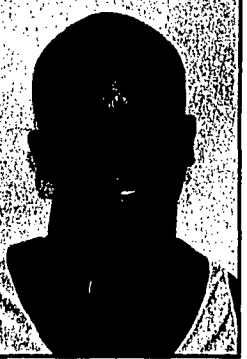
Leading Scorer- Ameer Watts 15.3 ppg

Leading Rebounder- Darrell Redmond 5.5 rpg

Leading Assists- Watts 5.32 apg

Who to watch out for- If Deon Rose can continue to do as well as he has in his last three games, he might be someone to look out for. He has averaged seven rebounds and 14.3 points per game in his last three games.

Why they can win the tournament- Missouri Southern played it close last time they faced Northwest in Joplin. They were up by five at halftime. Though they have lost five straight, if they win against Northwest they might finally find that confidence they need to take on anybody.



Ameer Watts

6. Central Missouri State Jennies

15-12 (8-10)

First Round opponent- Northwest Missouri State University

When- Thursday, 8:30 p.m.

Leading Scorer- Jena Shackelford 14.2 ppg

Leading Rebounder- Melissa Richardson 7.4 rpg

Leading Assists- Ashley Millham 4.8 apg

Who to watch out for- Ashley Millham may only be a freshman, but the MIAA tournament could be her coming out party. With the absence of guard Kinsey Lehe, she could be looked to for more offense.

Why they can win the tournament- After not even making the tournament last season, the Jennies seem to be a team on the rise. If they catch Northwest on an off-night and some things go their way, they could end up in the finals of the tournament.



Jena Shackelford

7. Missouri Western Griffons

13-14 (7-11)

First Round opponent- Emporia State University

When- Friday, 6 p.m.

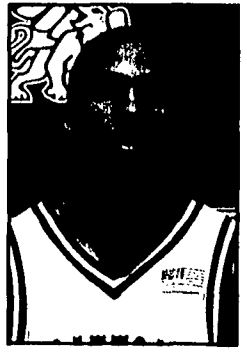
Leading Scorer- Langston Grady 16.3 ppg

Leading Rebounder- Devonte King 7.5 rpg

Leading Assists- Robert Bishop 3.1 apg

Who to watch out for- If Robert Bishop can hit the treys and if Langston Grady can score in double digits, the team could pose as a threat to contenders.

Why they can win the tournament- As the defending tournament champions, the Griffons still have a chance to make a bad season become better. They have beaten Emporia before and know their weaknesses. When the Griffons beat Emporia in St. Joseph, they held Tony Travis, the Hornets' leading scorer, to six points and fouled out. If Devonte King can control the boards inside, then the Griffons could come away with a big upset.



Langston Grady

7. Pittsburg State Gorillas

12-14 (7-11)

First Round opponent- Washburn University

When- Thursday 6 p.m.

Leading Scorer- Kami Scrivner 15.2 ppg

Leading Rebounder- Janelle Klein 6 rpg

Leading Assists- Stephanie Shanline 3.17 apg

Who to watch out for- Kami Scrivner is the key to their success. If you shut her down, you basically shut down the Gorillas. Scrivner led the team in scoring the last time they played Washburn, but she only scored nine points.

Why they can win the tournament- They haven't beaten a top team yet. However, they did have a four-point lead at halftime in their first game against Washburn earlier in the season. If they can get past them, they might have a chance, but it's a long shot.



Kami Scrivner

8. Missouri-Rolla Miners

14-13 (7-11)

First Round opponent- Washburn University

When- Friday, noon

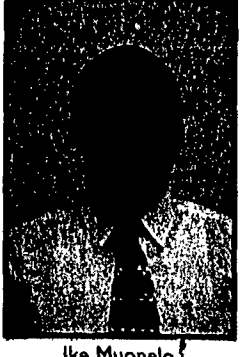
Leading Scorer- Ike Muonelo 15.8 ppg

Leading Rebounder- Josh Shaw 7.4 rpg

Leading Assists- DeAndre Johnson 4 apg

Who to watch out for- Kerry Darting is coming off a game in which he hit eight shots from behind the arc in an upset win over Northwest. If he and other teammates, like Ike Muonelo and Jermaine Burks, can get going from the three-point line, Washburn might have their hands full.

Why they can win the tournament- They can hit the shots from behind the arc. They lit it up against Northwest on Saturday by hitting 12 of their 24 three-point attempts. Don't let the seed fool you, this team is better than they look on paper. Both times the two have played, Rolla was only down by five at halftime, at the most.



Ike Muonelo

8. Southwest Baptist Bearcats

14-13 (6-12)

First Round opponent- Emporia State University

When- Thursday, Noon

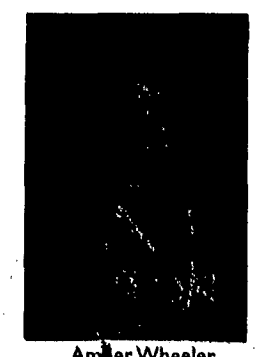
Leading Scorer- Amber Wheeler 16.2 ppg

Leading Rebounder- Alicia Mercer 7.3 rpg

Leading Assists- Jenny Miller 3.92 apg

Who to watch out for- Amber Wheeler can dominate a game. The MIAA MVP has managed to be the shining light in the Bearcats disappointing year. However, she was 2 of 15 from the field during Saturday's loss to Emporia. She must figure out how to get around the Hornets' sting in order to give her team a chance.

Why they can win the tournament- If Amber Wheeler and Alicia Mercer can pull off good performances they could beat Emporia, but if they do win it doesn't get any easier, with possible matches against Northwest and Washburn down the road.



Amber Wheeler

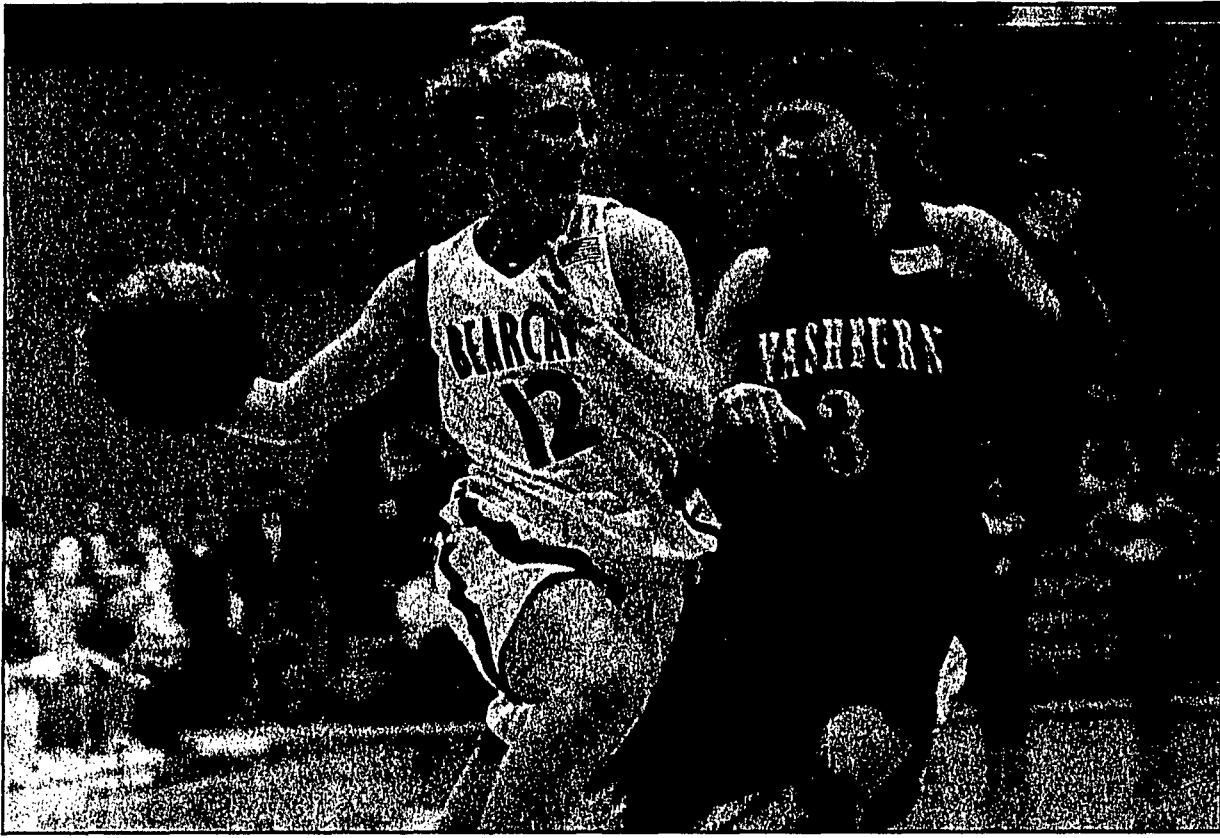


PHOTO BY BILL KNUST/SENIOR REPORTER

Erica Hatterman drives to the basket during a game earlier this season against Washburn. Hatterman has seen her scoring increase throughout the season, scoring 67 points in the team's last four games. Hatterman was also named to the MIAA's All-Defensive team.

Hatterman brings Northwest a winning attitude

By COLE YOUNG
SPORTS EDITOR

For nearly everyone on this year's women's basketball team, the success the team is seeing is unlike any they have ever experienced. That is, except for senior guard Erica Hatterman.

Hatterman, who transferred from Seward County Community College in Seward, Kan., lost only one game during her first two years of college.

After finishing 33-1 her freshman year, the Saints went 38-0 her senior year to win the National Junior College Athletic Association national championship.

While Hatterman was recruited from the national championship team for her defense, the sudden explosion of offense is what has Northwest fans buzzing.

"With or without her offense, she would be valuable to us," head coach Gene Steinmeyer said. "She would be valuable to us even if she scored four points, let alone 25 like she had this weekend. It is her defense that is so important."

Since being held scoreless against Emporia State on Feb. 11, Hatterman has only had one game where she has not scored in double figures, a nine-point effort against Washburn.

"The only difference in her game lately is we are asking her to attack the basket more," Steinmeyer said. "She has done a good job shooting three-pointers all year. Everyone just wanted to focus on her first couple games."

After scoring 11 points in the season opener, she would only score 13 points in her next four games combined.



One reason Steinmeyer thinks Hatterman has started scoring more is because of her ability to drive to the basket in one-on-one situations.

In addition to her scoring, according to Steinmeyer, she has also become more of a leader on the floor.

The usually quiet Hatterman never seems to say much during the game until something needs to be said.

"When there needs to be a voice on the floor, she provides it pretty well," Steinmeyer said.

Cole Young can be contacted at 562-1224 or cyoung@missourianonline.com

Mr. MIAA: Parker pulls in 4 conference honors at weekend awards presentation

By COLE YOUNG
SPORTS EDITOR

Most college basketball players would have been happy to get just one award on Sunday at the MIAA's awards reception.

But senior Kelvin Parker returned to Maryville with three awards.

In addition to being named First Team All-MIAA, Parker was named the league's Most Valuable Player and MIAA Defensive Player of the Year.

"The awards were nice," Parker said. "I would have rather had the whole team win conference, though, and all of us get rings other than me get this award."

Parker's exploits on the defensive end made him a member of the MIAA All-Defensive team, a honor he has received both years the team has been chosen.

"He has just gotten better every year," head coach Steve Tappmeyer said. "That isn't always a given when you go to college. He has gotten better though and he has represented our program very well."

The senior is second in the MIAA in scoring, averaging 17.9 points per game.

Parker's hot hand on offense makes

things that much easier for junior point guard Sky Wilson.

"Sometimes when they are keying on him, I get to drive more," Wilson said. "It works both ways though. Sometimes if I play well it can take some of the pressure off of him too."

Aside from being the leader just during games, Parker is known by his coaches and teammates as being a leader during practice as well.

"He is pretty vocal," junior forward Jesse Shaw said. "He makes sure everyone knows what they are doing during practice."

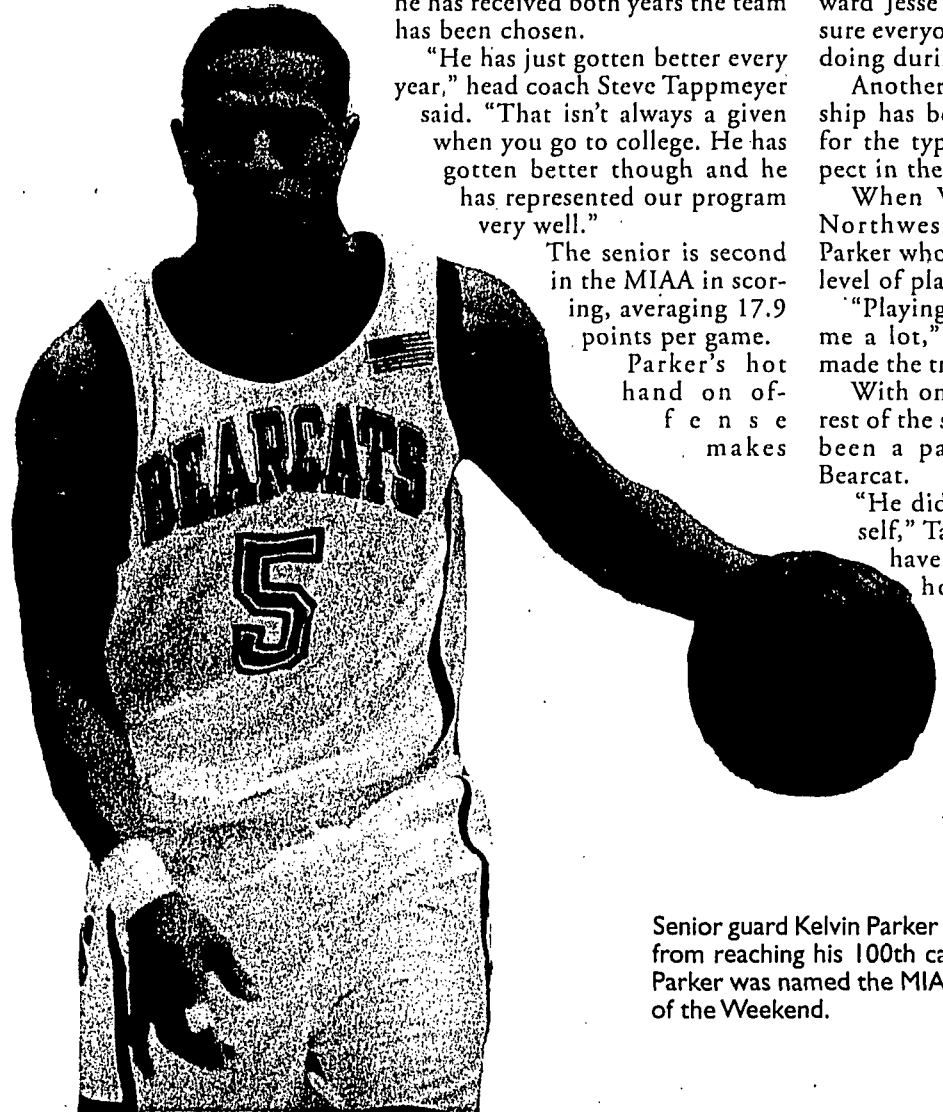
Another part of Parker's leadership has been preparing transfers for the type of play they can expect in the MIAA.

When Wilson transferred to Northwest this season, it was Parker who helped him realize the level of play he would be facing.

"Playing with Kelvin has helped me a lot," Wilson said. "He has made the transition easier for me."

With one more win during the rest of the season, Parker will have been a part of 100 wins as a Bearcat.

"He didn't win 99 games himself," Tappmeyer said. "He did have a part in all 99 of them however. There is no doubt he is an awfully big part of the history of this program."



Senior guard Kelvin Parker is just one victory away from reaching his 100th career win as a Bearcat. Parker was named the MIAA Most Valuable Player of the Weekend.

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